THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • SATURDAY • AUGUST 01, 2020 • ₹7.00 • PAGES 18 • LATE CITY EDITION

READ SHARE FOLLOW

newindianexpress.com

facebook.com/thenewindianxpress twitter.com/newindianxpress

instagram.com/newindianexpress

FOREIGN FLIGHT SUSPENSION EXTENDED TILL AUGUST 31

The Centre on Friday said suspension of scheduled flights to and from the country has been stretched till August-end

SERVICES UNDER TRAVEL BUBBLES TO GO ON

Flights operating under the 'Transport Bubble' agreements that India has signed with the US, France, and Germany won't be affected. The restrictions won't apply also to international all-cargo flights. Suspension of foreign flight operations that began in late March was to end on Friday. It was extended in light of the mounting Covid-19 cases in the country

MORE AGREEMENTS IN THE MAKING: GOVT

- India is in talks with the UK to set up a travel bubble under which two flights will operate between Delhi and London daily. The Centre on Friday indicated it has reached a deal with Kuwait
- "More such arrangements are likely to fructify and ease people's movements from different countries," the government said

7.5 lakh

INDIANS BROUGHT HOME UNDER THE VANDE BHARAT MISSION

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ WARANGAL ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Department
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department
Everyone, everyday everytime use Toilet
parihara +91 94809 85555
Swachha Gramasutra 4
SECURITY IS INSIDE
DON'T GO OUTSIDE
Share your 'Being Secure' story of using toilets
www.swachhamevajayate.org GovtOfKarnatakaRdpr GokRDPR @gokRDPR
Shri B. S. Yediyurappa
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt of Karnataka

Core output -ve for 4th month

Eight sectors post 15% contraction in June against 22% in May, showing feeble recovery

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@New Delhi

DESPITE relaxation in lockdown measures, output of the eight core industries contracted 15% in June. However, the latest dip has a silver lining as it is lower than that of the previous two months — 22% contraction in May and 37% in April, signalling uneven recovery in manufacturing activity.

According to economists, the improvement was mainly because of relaxation in lockdown and improvement in economic activities. Industrial activity is expected to pick up pace going forward with more relaxations coming into play.

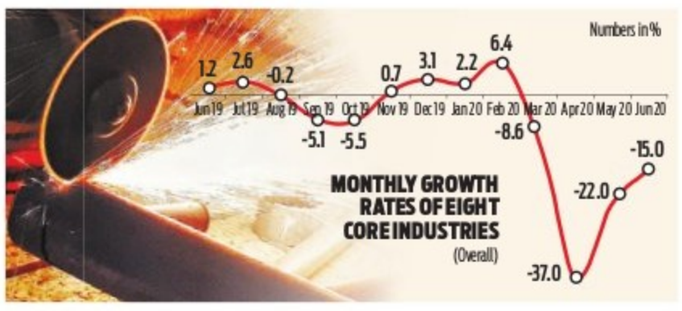
"The slightly positive factor is that the decline in growth has improved," said Madan Sabnavis, chief economist, CARE Ratings.

Performance of the core industries — electricity , steel, refinery products, crude oil, coal, cement, natural gas and fertilisers — is crucial as they account for 40.27% in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP). So, any contraction in core sector output will also drag down the IIP numbers.

Sector-wise data showed all sectors, barring fertilizers, showed negative growth, with the steel sector showing the steepest contraction at 33%. Coal contracted by 15.5%, natural gas by 12%, electricity 11% and crude oil 6%, while refinery products, which weigh 28.02% of the IIP, witnessed an 8.9% contraction.

However, cement production showed sharp improvement from 85.3% contraction recorded in May to a negative growth of 6.9% in June. This shows improvement in construction activities, a key indicator of improving infra activities.

However, not all are as optimistic. "With virus cases still rising, many restrictions will remain for an extended period. The upshot is that the recovery in Indian industry is likely to be slow and bumpy," said Darren Aw, Asia economist at Capital Economics.



TV import curb will promote local manufacturing: Experts

New Delhi: The Centre's plan to restrict imports of TV sets will boost domestic manufacturing and cut dependence on Chinese imports, industry analysts said. "India can emerge as the next hub for manufacturing TVs not only for the Indian markets but also for the global market. This step is definitely in the right direction and will help in creating a global hub, which we want to be," Dixon Technologies Chairman Sunil Vachani said | P10

MSMEs can't be refused credit under emergency credit facility

New Delhi: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday said banks cannot refuse credit to MSMEs under the emergency credit facility and any refusal should be reported. "If refused, such instances must be reported," she said, adding the govt is working with the RBI on need for restructuring of loans to help industry tide over Covid impact | P10

Fiscal deficit widens to 83% of Budget estimate

ANURADHA SHUKLA @ New Delhi

WITH lockdown measures badly hitting the government's revenue collection and expenditure shooting through the roof, India's fiscal deficit widened to ₹6.62 lakh crore in the April-June quarter, accounting for 83.2% of the target for the whole financial year. The deficit is unusually high for a quarter, say experts.

"Our baseline estimate is that the fiscal deficit will surge to ₹13 lakh crore in FY21 from the budgeted level of ₹8.0 lakh crore. This anticipated fiscal slippage, even in our base case scenario, exceeds the extent by which the Centre's market borrowings have already been increased," said Aditi Nayar, principal economist at ICRA.

₹6.62 L cr
Fiscal deficit in the April-June quarter

As expected, revenue collection remained subdued. Data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) on Friday revealed that the net tax receipts were ₹1.35 lakh crore, compared to ₹2.51 lakh crore in the same period last year.

For the quarter, tax revenues were at 8% of the full year target of ₹16.35 lakh crore, while non-tax revenues were at only 4% of the full year target of ₹3.85 lakh crore.

ICRA has predicted the net tax revenues of the Centre, non-tax revenues and disinvestment proceeds to together trail the budgeted level by more than ₹6 lakh crore. CONTINUED ON: P12

Low virus deaths due to location?

SUMI SUKANYA DUTTA
@ New Delhi

INDIA'S Covid-19 mortality rate of 2.2% and its comparatively low number of deaths per million people have puzzled scientists and researchers the world over.

Now, some of the country's top cancer doctors say they have found a biological explanation for it.

Doctors at the Tata Memorial Centre (TMC) in Mumbai proposed that the lower incidence of deep vein blood clots in warmer areas and those closer to the equator may help understand India's relatively low mortality rate.

Their study, published in the ICMR's Indian Journal for Medical Research, points out that death per million in India, which stands at 25 as of Friday, is considerably lower than most other countries. For instance, it is 849 in Belgium, 679 in the UK and 470 in the United States.

Also, India's mortality rate of 2.2% (meaning 2.2 deaths per hundred positive cases) stands in contrast to the UK's 15.2%, Italy's 14.2% and Spain's 10%. The global fatality rate is around 3.8%.

Multiple studies from China, Europe and the US have linked blood clots in deep veins to Covid-19 deaths.Researches from various other countries have identified venous thromboembolism (VTE) —a condition in which a blood clot forms in the deep veins—as an important cause of poor gaseous exchange and death in Covid-19 patients.

Studies have also found D-dimer—a small protein fragment present in the blood after a blood clot is an important predictor of death.The doctors at TMC, however, have shown indirect evidence for a lower incidence of VTE from India

Less than 5 in more than 20,000 women who receive tamoxifen—an anti-breast cancer drug—at the TMC annually, develop clots—a known complication of this drug.

The doctors say there's no need for widespread anxiety over the disease and suggested that strict lockdowns are not necessary.

COVID STATUS REPORT

5.28 lakh
ACTIVE COVID-19 CASES IN INDIA

1,580 patients on ventilator
8,504 patients in the ICU
12,255 people on oxygen support.

6.42 lakh
tests conducted in the last 24 hours, the Union health ministry said on Friday morning.

64.54% is India's Covid-19 recovery rate

1.88 crore tests
conducted so far through 1,331 labs

THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS
MAGAZINE

ANNOUNCEMENT

Starting August 2, the Sunday Magazine brings you three new astrology columns by A Tora, Sundar Balakrishnan and Meenakshi Chawla

— Editor

EXPRESS READ

Vijayendra is BJP state vice-president

Bengaluru: BJP state president Nalin Kumar Kateel on Friday announced his new team of office-bearers. While Kateel has retained many incumbents, CM Yediyurappa's son B Y Vijayendra has been elevated as the party state unit's VP. P7

AP's three-capital bills get Guv's assent

Amaravati: Clearing legislative hurdle to Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy's plan to have three capitals for Andhra Pradesh, Governor Biswa Bhusan Harichandan on Friday gave his nod for the same. P7

Valmikis get domicile certificates in JK

Jammu: Sixty three years after their arrival in Jammu and Kashmir as "sanitary workers" on the request of the then government, members of the Valmiki community are finally being granted domicile certificates.

Mehbooba's detention extended

FAYAZ WANI @Srinagar

THE Jammu and Kashmir government on Friday extended the detention of PDP chief and former J&K Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti under the Public Safety Act (PSA) by three more months.

At the same time, as an Eid gift, Peoples Conference chairman and former minister Sajjad Gani Lone was set free from house detention days before he was to complete a year-long detention.

J&K Principal Secretary Home Shaleen Kabra, in an order, on Friday extended PSA detention of Mehbooba by three more months.

Her PSA detention was expiring on August 5.She has been under detention since the Centre's dilution of Article 370 in August last year. She was initially lodged at Cheshma Shahi hut and then shifted to government accommodation at Maulana Azad Road. She is the only mainstream leader still in detention under PSA. P10

FARM FARE

With more hands on fields, state sees more sowing

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @Bengaluru

THE Covid-induced lockdown, which saw reverse migration to the hinterland, coupled with good monsoon rains, has had a positive effect which is showing on the fields. There has been an increase in sowing activity across the state in the prevailing kharif season.

As per the data from the State Agriculture Department, cultivable land in the state is 73 lakh hectares of which close to 50 lakh hectares has already been covered under sowing, meeting 68 per cent of the target. The state is in the second month of the monsoon season and the officials are confident that in the next couple of weeks, they will exceed the targeted sowing area. Last year, up to July end, sowing was completed in 44.99 lakh hectares whereas five lakh more hectares have been covered this year.

CONTINUED ON: P5

Kamal Pant is new B'luru police chief

BALA CHAUHAN @ Bengaluru

Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), State Intelligence, Kamal Pant has been appointed as the new Bengaluru City Police Commissioner. He replaces the incumbent top cop and his batchmate Bhaskar Rao. Both officers are of the 1990 batch of the Indian Police Service. Pant hails from Uttarakhand.

The New Indian Express had first reported about the change of guard a day before the government appointed Pant as City police commissioner. Pant is not new to Bengaluru. He was posted as Additional Commissioner of Police (law and order) in 2014, under the then police commissioner Raghavendra H Auradkar.

Known to be a tough officer with impeccable service credentials, Pant has handled some sensitive assignments during his tenure. After his stint in the City between 2013-14, he was posted as ADGP-Prisons, during which time he headed the Special Investigation Team (SIT) formed to probe the internal corruption in the Lokayukta.

Pant has also served as the ADGP, Karnataka State Reserve Police (KSRP), and was member of the Auradkar Committee, which was constituted in 2016 by the then Congress CM Siddaramaiah to address pay and allowances-related issues of the Group-C police personnel. Pant was posted as ADGP-Intelligence last August.

BHASKAR RAO LED CITY POLICE DURING TOUGH TIMES

Outgoing police commissioner Bhaskar Rao has successfully steered the City through various law and order crises, beginning with the protests against the CAA and NRC. Even as the protests were raging, the Covid lockdown was announced in March. After some initial incidents of cops roughing up service and delivery agents during the lockdown, the city police in no time started issuing online passes for distribution of essentials. They helped BBMP officials, voluntary organisations and individuals distribute rations and meals to migrant workers, and also helped them get back to their hometowns.

KARNATAKA COVID-19 BATTLE

5,483 Test Positive on Friday

1,24,115 Total Cases
2,314 Total Deaths

49,788 RECOVERIES
72,005 ACTIVE CASES

3 staffers at Mysuru Airport test +ve

Doctors' task force in Dakshina Kannada to train people at ward and GP-levels in capacity building

27 private hospitals in Koppal district told to provide 50% of beds for Covid cases

MORE ON PAGE 4

QUIET AFFAIR

No pageantry on Independence Day, no public celebration of festivals this yr

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THERE will be no revelry, no pomp and show or even the magnificence of the military parades when Bengaluru celebrates Independence Day this year. That's not all. Bakrid and Gowri-Ganesha festivals will have to be private affairs.

With Covid-19 cases continuing to rise, and in keeping with the Central government's guidelines on Unlock-3, the parade and cultural programmes have been suspended, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Commissioner N Manjunatha Prasad declared on Friday.

Since the Central and State government guidelines clearly state that no social, religious or public gatherings are permitted, it has been decided that the Independence Day event will not exceed 45 minutes and attendance to the event will not be more than 100 people. Also, citizens will not be allowed to participate, Prasad said.

The Independence Day celebrations this year will be a muted affair.

Usually, around 5,000 children participate in cultural programmes apart from police bands and contingents. But this year, none of that will be on show.

The hoisting of the National Flag will be followed by singing of the National and State anthems, a farmers' song, two patriotic songs and the Chief Minister's speech, Prasad pointed out.

Participants at this year's event include 25 Covid-19 warriors, recovered patients, some officials and elected representatives, instead of the usual 16,000 invitees. There will be no shower of flower petals from a helicopter during the flag-hoisting this year.

He added that all those participating will be subject to rapid antigen test and screened for oxygen levels and temperature. The event will start at 9 am and conclude within 45 minutes. Entry without masks will not be permitted and physical distancing will have to be followed.

The Commissioner also said that this year, gatherings and public celebrations for Bakrid and Gowri-Ganesha festivals will be prohibited.

CONTINUED ON: P2

ALMANAC TODAY
Saturday 01/08/2020 • Year: Sarvari • Ayana : Dakshinayana • Ritu: Varsha
Masa: Sravana • Paksha: Shukla • Tithi: Thrayodashi 9.32 pm • Nakshatra: Moola 7.34 am
Moon in Makara Rashi • Rahukaala: 09:00 am to 10:30am
Gulikakala: 06:00 am to 07:30 am • Yamaganda: 01:49 pm to 03:26 pm

WEATHER WATCH
MIN 22°C | MAX 28°C
FORECAST
Light showers. Mostly cloudy.

Sunrise 6.05 am
Sunset 6.46 pm
Moonrise 4.59 pm
Moonset 3.40 am

A draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report states that almost 34,000 trees could be lost if the Peripheral Ring Road project takes off | EXPRESS

PRR project will mean eco-doom for city: Study

'Will lose 34K trees, 5 lakes, TG Halli catchment'

MEERA BHARDWAJ @Bengaluru

BENGALURU'S PRR project will result in loss of 34,000 trees and impact five lakes, the TG Halli catchment area, Jarakabande Reserve Forest.

The draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report for the 8-Lane Peripheral Ring Road (PRR), Phase-1 comes as a shocker that cites adverse impacts on the ecology and microclimate of Bengaluru. The project will destroy 33,838 trees in Bengaluru which includes 9,304 trees in TG Halli catchment area and impact 5 lakes and see diversion of 10.12 hectares of Jarakabande Reserve Forest.

The EIA report outlines that their scientific enumeration along the alignment reveals the necessity for removal of 34K trees. Out of this, 9,304 trees fall in TG Halli catchment area and 631 in Jarakabande Reserve Forest apart from diversion of 10.12 ha of forest land. "The removal of such a huge tree cover and clearance of vegetation will cause disturbance in the microclimate, habitat loss and disturbance of vegetation and sensitive plant communities. It can cause physical disturbance and increase in release of CO_2."

The Jarakabande forest is a lung space for citizens living in the northern part of Bengaluru, says Vijay Nishanth, urban conservationist. Further, the recent tiger report cites the presence of leopards in the forests of Bengaluru. The PRR will sound the death knell for the remaining lung space of the city.

A forest official adds, any massive tree felling in a catchment area will destroy the habitat. Since the project passes through TG Halli catchment area, the felling of more than 9,000 trees will affect the hydrology and water quality in the area. The construction will also cause loss of habitat of the Indian Peafowl.

On March 19, 2020, the Supreme Court upheld National Green Tribunal orders which directed the BDA to prepare a fresh EIA for this project. Integrating with the existing NICE Road, this 65.5-kilometre-long PRR road with 100 metres width will connect Tumakuru Road to Hosur Road (crossing Ballari and Old Madras Road).

NGO to campaign against BDA report

Bengaluru: Jhatkaa.org has started a petition against the project. With a public hearing being called on August 11, Meghna Amin, campaigner, said, "We have three demands: Hold the BDA accountable for this erroneous EIA report, not have any public hearings until the pandemic is under control, and implement a stay order on the PRR project."

BDA identifies 1,200-plus illegal structures

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

THE Bangalore Development Authority is neck deep in identifying unauthorised constructions that are over 12 years old, after the State government amended the BDA Act two months ago to permit the regularisation of such buildings on payment of penalty. BDA has been given two years to complete the process that also involves demolishing illegal structures built after June 1, 2008.

The amendment to Section 38 (D) of the Act was brought about by the government through an ordinance on May 28 this year.

BDA Commissioner H R Mahadev told *TNIE* that over 1,200 structures have so far been identified in just two areas. "In just HSR Layout, we found that 515 structures have come up illegally, while in Pillana Garden III Stage 695 such structures have been identified. They can be regularised by levying a penalty," he said.

According to the Bangalore Development Authority (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020, these are the penalties that would be levied on illegal structures depending on the plot size: 20x30 sqft: 10% of the guidance value, 30x40 sqft: 25% of the guidance value, 60x40 sqft 40% of the guidance value. Plots larger than 40x60 sqft and up to 50x80 sqft need to pay a penalty of up to 50% of guidance value. Asked when the exercise would be completed, Mahadev said, "It will take us some time as we have 64 layouts across the city and our staffers are pursuing it rigorously."

Another senior BDA official said, "The status of the plots and the illegalities are being determined by using maps of the Karnataka State Remote Sensing Applications Centre. Our staffers are carrying out the work fast and we hope to complete it before the deadline."

Hundreds of owners who want to regularise their properties are keen to pay the penalty, a source said. "These properties have been purchased by them after the BDA notified them for acquisition but did not acquire them. They cannot be sold too because they have been notified," he said. The State government has estimated these unauthorised constructions to be spread over 6,000 acres of land.

> **These properties have been purchased after the BDA notified the buyers for acquisition but did not acquire them. These plots cannot be sold because they have been notified for acquisition**
>
> BDA official

Violators will be booked

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

NO more warnings will be issued and those violating the norms will be booked under Disaster Management Act. He added no mass prayers, public slaughter of animals or get-togethers will be allowed for Eid ul-Adha. The Wakf Board and Minorities Department have been informed and they have agreed to the decision.

Also, no community installation of Ganesha idols will be permitted. Prasad admitted that businesses will take a beating, and added that many have already been affected.

Prasad added that directions have been issued to all BBMP officials and powers have been given to them to take action.

CROWDS DESPITE COVID

A day after crowds thronged KR Puram market, disregarding physical distancing precaution, the government decided to extend the closure of KR Market in the heart of the city to August 31 | MEGHANA SASTRY

Licence of Tonique valid, State tells HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Karnataka government told the high court that there was no violation of Excise Rules in granting licence to Tonique, a liquor outlet on Kasturba Road in Bengaluru.

The state government on July 29 submitted the report before the division bench of Justice Aravind Kumar and Justice M I Arun, in support of its contention after conducting survey on July 23, as per the court's order. The State said that both the office of the DCP, Central Business District, and church are outside the 100 metre range from the liquor outlet. The survey revealed that the distance between the liquor shop and DCP's office is 126.5 metre, and between liquor shop and church is 144 metre, the state said.

The petitioner A V Amarnathan, an advocate, filed the PIL alleging that the Excise Department granted license though the DCP office and church were within 100 metres of the liquor outlet and is violation of Excise Rules. The bench said following the report, nothing remains for consideration but as the petitioner-counsel was not present, it relisted the matter to August 20.

Denied treatment, mother of newborn passes away

IFFATH FATHIMA @Bengaluru

JUST seven days after delivering a baby boy, a 26-year-old woman and resident of Rajarajeshwari Nagar passed away after being denied treatment by several hospitals.

The woman's husband said that on July 22, they got her tested for Covid-19 at ESI Hospital in RR Nagar, and the test came back negative on July 24. The same day, she delivered a baby boy and was discharged on July 30. Later in the evening, she started to experience breathlessness, and was taken back to the same hospital. The hospital stated that while they could control her oxygen levels, she has to be admitted elsewhere.

"The same hospital where my child was delivered didn't want to admit my wife. We had to start looking for other hospitals. We went to St John's, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Chest Diseases and Sri Venkateswara Hospital, but they all claimed not to have ventilators available, and that they couldn't admit her," said the husband.

Jayanagar MLA Sowmya Reddy was informed about the patient, and made attempts to find her a bed. "I made calls to many hospitals, but no beds were available. We finally got one at Narayana Hrudayalaya at 5am, but by then I learnt that she had passed away. If she was treated on time, she might have been alive now," said Reddy.

The MLA added that she comes across such instances every week, and that the government needs to address this issue by having a live dashboard on bed availability.

The husband told *TNIE* that he's still trying to figure out how to care for his baby alone. "The healthcare system in Bengaluru has collapsed," he said.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

1st August : We are at last beginning to find other Earth-like planets in distant regions of outer-space. What does this mean for us? Well, for one thing, we may not be alone. Somewhere, someplace, far away, there are creatures just like us, looking for us just as we search for them. But will we ever meet? I just don't know!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)

You have a reputation for getting your own way. In part, this is others' fault for allowing themselves to be overruled. However, today may I advise you to be extra sensitive to partners' rather delicate feelings. The more pleasant you are to them, the nicer they'll be to you.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)

You could be at your most persuasive. This really is a sociable day and you should make great play of your ability to bring people together. Prospects for those in the property market are distinctly better than average but, as usual, your planning has to be perfect.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

The various relationships between Mars, Mercury, Venus and Jupiter are perfectly optimistic in their inclinations, and should suit you down to the ground. This is a time to get on with your favourite tasks, to exchange information, make short trips and generally chase your special ambitions.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Your particular brand of sensitivity is one we could all learn from. Powerful emotional alignments suit your mood and may encourage you to put yourself on the line as far as one special relationship is concerned. You'll need all the courage and confidence at your disposal.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)

Slowly but surely you ought to be reassuring partners of your loyalty and dedication. The lesson to learn at the moment is that partnerships must be worked at. This simple truth is quite compatible with the fun, pleasure and enjoyment that come from special associations.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

Other people hold the key. It doesn't matter whether your speciality is a working partnership, a romantic liaison or just friendship in general. All that is important is that you open your heart. Once you do that, then other people may respond in the ways that you always hoped they would.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

What you can do now is take a much firmer line with children. You should also realise that there are many chores to be completed and tasks to be done, even if you are in the mood for a day off. Your best approach is to call in a long-forgotten favour.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

As the Moon moves to and fro between challenging regions of your chart and harmonious ones, the chances for romantic happiness improve. You should seize the opportunity to enjoy yourself, regardless of whether your interests are high-brow or low.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)

Once again, home and family affairs occupy your attention. It may be a day to indulge in your favourite practical tasks, or to enjoy the company of your favourite relations. Friendly communication with everyone is the top theme for the next twenty-four hours.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)

There is a great temptation to talk about subjects of which you know nothing. If you can get away with a bluff, do so by all means. On the other hand, if facts are important, you may care to get a second opinion. That's especially the case if you're risking your own cash.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

The time has come to clear the decks, as I think you know. As long as you have major personal matters in hand, you may indulge a financial whim. If spending plans are your top priority, then it looks as if frivolities may be a better buy than necessities.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)

There are so many thought-provoking planetary patterns at the moment, but the dominant mood is emotional. My hope is that we will see the very best of your caring, compassionate sensitivity. My concern is that you may be a little too ready to build molehills into quite unnecessary mountains.

THE PHANTOM

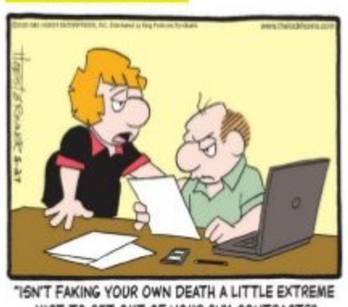
HI AND LOIS

BEETLE BAILEY

BLONDIE

HOW'S YOUR PEEWEE BASEBALL TEAM DOING?
OUR NEW COACH IS SUPER STRICT! NO TEXTING IN THE OUTFIELD!
PLUS, HE BANNED ALL SELFIES IN THE DUGOUT!
IT'S LIKE HE'S FORGOTTEN WHAT THE GAME IS ALL ABOUT!

LOCKHORNS



DENNIS THE MENACE

Test your number crunching skill with our unique puzzle

SUDOKU

1	2		5					
		7		2		3	9	
8	4	9	7			6		2
	1	2	6			7		8
5		8			2	9	3	
9		4			1	5	2	3
	3	1		5		8		
					6		7	4

HARD

- Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.
- Each sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzles

7	9	6	5	2	8	4	1	3
1	8	2	3	4	6	7	9	5
3	5	4	7	1	9	8	2	6
4	1	8	2	7	5	3	6	9
2	3	7	9	6	1	5	4	8
5	6	9	4	8	3	2	7	1
8	4	3	6	9	2	1	5	7
6	2	5	1	3	7	9	8	4
9	7	1	8	5	4	6	3	2

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MLATE
LTETI
DYOTID
SLYOSG

Our goal is to create only the finest watches available.
In due course, everyone will know your name.
ROLEX DEBUTED IN 1908 AND WOULD BECOME KNOWN FOR ITS HIGH-QUALITY WATCHES

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

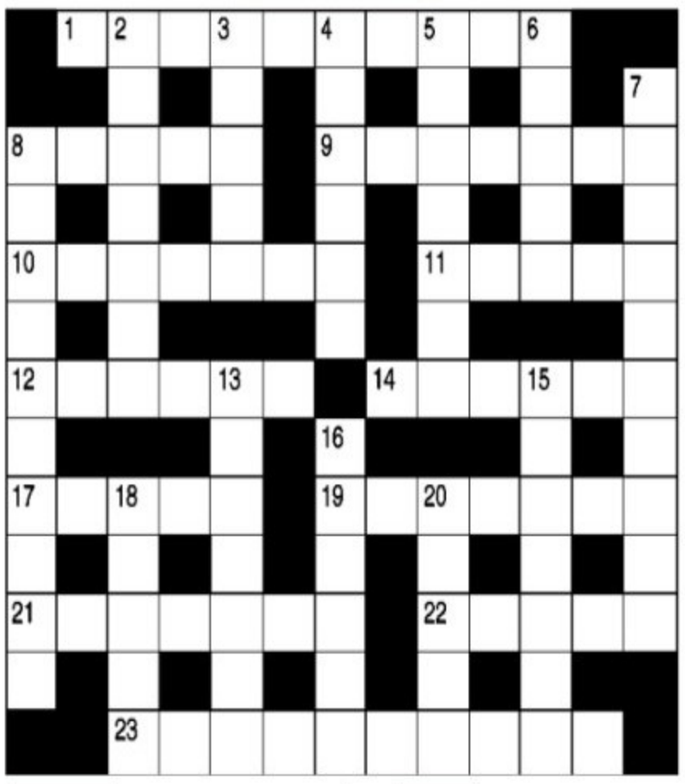
IN

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: WAVER WALTZ HOBNOB NATIVE
Answer: The starting pitcher argued against being replaced and didn't want to — THROW IN THE TOWEL

©2020 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

CROSS WORD



ACROSS

1 Topsy-turvy promotion team relegated (6-4)
8 Female undergarments, possibly bloomers (5)
9 Experimental growth as a way of life (7)
10 Excursions from Tunis go free (7)
11 Strangely adore a mountain nymph (5)
12 Discourteous sailor put out around mid-afternoon (6)
14 Goods thrown out from planes in the morning (6)
17 A widespread current issue (5)
19 Hold back the chorus (7)
21 Clergymen curse at changes (7)
22 Perhaps my pet needs feeding (5)
23 Another employee - not a new one (6,4)

DOWN

2 Artist keeps a boat by the bank (7)
3 More than one ghost writer (5)
4 Free from blame maybe (6)
5 Lacking brothers and sisters and just twelve months old (4,3)
6 Hopeless - and without purpose (2,3)
7 What one is prepared to pay? (5,5)
8 Ocean winds of a sort Arctic explorers have to face (4,3,3)
13 Fashionable substitute for wood or metal (7)
15 Give some point to something (7)
16 Place for one who pinches or nips perhaps (6)
18 Musical instruments not true in sound? (5)
20 Saucy novel? (5)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Impact, 4 Pathos, 9 Vietnam, 10 Stall, 11 Santa Claus, 12 Amnesty, 13 The naked eye, 18 Cabaret, 20 Limbo, 23 Organic, 24 Allots, 25 Stymie.

Down: 1 Invest, 2 Paean, 3 Contain, 5 Arson, 6 Hearsay, 7 Splays, 8 Embarkation, 14 Hobnail, 15 Delight, 16 Acacia, 17 Douche, 19 Reset, 21 Minim.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

03 BENGALURU SATURDAY 01.08.2020 newindianexpress.com

Bengaluru Bannerghatta Biological Park management has said the zoo will be open on Sundays, but will be closed for visitors on Tuesdays as usual. Tickets must be booked online and all social distancing norms and bulk booking restrictions will continue to prevail.

Guv calls CM for meeting over rising Covid-19 cases

This comes days after Savadi's meeting with Vala raised eyebrows

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

AS the number of active Covid-19 cases touched 72,000 in the state on Friday, Governor Vajubhai Vala called Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa for a meeting to discuss the state's handling of the pandemic. Accompanied by Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai, Yediyurappa visited the Raj Bhavan and apprised the Governor of the state's efforts.

The visit comes barely days after Deputy Chief Minister Laxman Savadi's impromptu meeting with the Governor had raised eyebrows. Home Minister Bommai, who addressed the media outside the Raj Bhavan after the meeting, said that cabinet expansion was not discussed with the Governor and Covid-19 was the only agenda. But sources in the Chief Minister's Office suggested that Yediyurappa hoped to put to rest rumours of unrest in the state under his leadership and secure re-connection and complete coordination with the BJP Central leadership with this meeting as the first step.

During the meeting, the Governor is said to have warned that cases in Karnataka may spike in the next 15 days and necessary arrangements have to be made to tackle the challenge. He is said to have asked the state government to use Ayurvedic and homoeopathic medication to control the pandemic.

"During the discussion, the Honourable Governor suggested to the chief minister to ban the sale and distribution of tobacco/gutka/panmasala and all types of pouches, in the state. Due to this Youths and Students are getting addicted and they are in danger (SIC)," a Raj Bhavan statement said. Yediyurappa assured that action will be initiated and an ordinance will be brought in if necessary.

"After the CM's briefing, the Governor praised the government for its efforts," said Bommai. Sources said that Yediyurappa, who has remained quiet as murmurs of change in leadership have made a comeback, will work towards engaging more actively with the high command.

> **During the discussion, the Honourable Governor suggested to the CM to ban the sale and distribution of tobacco/gutka/panmasala in the state**
>
> Raj Bhavan statement

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa meets Governor Vajubhai Vala at Raj Bhavan on Friday in Bengaluru | EXPRESS

15 Cong MLAs in contact with us, says Kateel

ENS @Bengaluru

BJP state president Nalin Kumar Kateel has claimed that 15 Congress MLAs are in touch with the saffron party. Talking to the media near Ramanagara on Friday, Kateel refused to disclose any names and also declined to comment on MLC C P Yogeshwar's comment on KPCC president D K Shivakumar and former CM H D Kumaraswamy. Yogeshwar had said they have plans to bring in Congress and JDS workers in Mysuru to strengthen the party.

KPCC president DK Shivakumar on Friday ridiculed his BJP counterpart Kateel's statement that 15 Congress MLAs are in contact with him. When reporters sought his reaction to the statement, Shivakumar said not just 15 MLAs but all the 224 MLAs are in touch with the BJP president. "I don't know why he is bluffing, saying only 15 are with him," he said.

Covid charges: BJP sends legal notices to Siddu, DKS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE BJP on Friday sought an unconditional apology from former CM Siddaramaiah and state Congress president D K Shivakumar over allegations of misappropriation of ₹2,000 crore in the purchase of equipment to fight Covid. The party has sent legal notices.

The Congress leaders hit back at the BJP by reiterating the charges against the government.

BJP general secretary and MLC N Ravi Kumar, who sent the notices, said the allegations are politically motivated. The statistics provided by the Congress leaders on July 23 are far from truth and misleading. It was done with the motive of tarnishing the BJP government's image, he said.

Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar had alleged that Rs 2,000 crore has been misappropriated in the purchase of equipment, including ventilators and PPE kits and also accused the government of purchasing poor quality equipment at higher prices. The Congress had demanded a judicial probe by a high court judge. BJP ministers had turned down the demand for a probe.

"Shivakumar, who had gone to Tihar jail on corruption charges, has no moral right to speak about corruption. During 2013 elections, his assets were ₹251 crore. How did it go up to ₹840 crore in 2018? Can he explain," Ravi asked.

Congress president DK Shivakumar at Shri Manjunathaswamy Temple in Ujire, Dakshina Kannada, on Friday | EXPRESS

BJP GOVT GETS A CUT FROM PVT HOSPITALS, ALLEGES DKS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Mangaluru

IN a fresh attack on the State government over Covid-19 management, KPCC president DK Shivakumar on Friday alleged that the government is getting a cut from the covid treatment bills doled out by private hospitals.

Addressing a press meet, he said the government should have made covid treatment free for all by using schemes like Ayushman Bharat and others. But it fixed rates for the treatment in private hospitals. This helped private hospitals charge lakhs of rupees for the treatment and the government gets a cut in it, he said.

Reiterating his allegation about corruption in purchases related to Covid management, Shivakumar challeged the government to book a case against him if the charges are false. "The ₹2 crore loot in the name of Covid management is clear in the affidavit filed by the government before High Court and in government orders and media reports," he said.

> **The loot in the name of Covid management is clear in the government's affidavit filed before HC, in government orders and media reports**
>
> DK Shivakumar, KPCC president

Accusing the government of refusing to provide information under RTI on the purchases, Shivakumar said they are not ready to join hands with the government in its corruption. "If you have trust in the legal system, then order an inquiry by a sitting judge," he pressed.

DKS meets veterans

Shivakumar and KPCC working president Saleem Ahmed who visited the district for the first time after assuming charge, met Congress leaders Oscar Fernandes and B Janardhan Poojary.

> **I was waiting for their legal notice, I will look into it. Half the Covid relief funds has been looted by those in power in the government. We will corner the government on this**
>
> Siddaramaiah, Congress leader

> **We are fighting for the people, not for the party's benefit. We are ready to provide all documents related to corruption in the purchase of Covid-related medical equipment**
>
> H K Patil, Congress leader

IT-BT will be taken to smaller cities: Yediyurappa

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE state needs to develop equitably and with that in mind, high-growth sectors like IT and BT should be encouraged to expand to Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, said Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa on Friday, while inaugurating the new Keonics Warehousing Incubation and Startup Centre.

He said that the centre, which has been set up at a cost of Rs 33 crore, will be equipped with world-class facilities and will help train youngsters from rural areas for jobs and business opportunities.

Industries Minister Jagadish Shettar said, "Our government is focused on developing smaller cities. We have a well-developed facility in Hubballi, while we are trying to develop Kalaburagi, Shivamogga and other smaller cities. Though initially, we were not successful, we have not given up and are trying harder. Our IT/BT thrust in Mysuru and Mangaluru is already yielding results and we will carry it to other smaller cities as well."

Deputy Chief Minister Dr CN Ashwath Narayan said the centre, which has an area of around 75,000 sqft, will launch the Digital Economy Mission, which will help entrepreneurs enter national and international markets.

XPRESS FOCUS

Empowering Indian Youth for the Exports Sector

Considering that when a Post-Graduate Export Programme aims to focus on Agricultural and Allied Products, becoming more valuable to students, Indian Institute of Plantation Management, Bengaluru (IIPMB) has forayed into this academic domain with its new two-year Post Graduate Diploma in Agricultural Export and Business Management, says

Dr. V. G.Dhanakumar, Director, IIPM, Bengaluru

Indian Exports Sector is facing a challenging time during the ongoing pandemic. However, it is estimated to see a tremendous growth during the post-Covid period. The evolving global supply chain dynamics are expected to favour India in becoming a vital source for the supply of products to the global markets.

The prospects, especially, are more for agricultural products, since India has the second highest amount of agricultural produce in the world and food products are always perceived to be essentials. Our country is the world's largest producer of Mango, Banana and Dairy products. It is world's No.2 in cereals, sugarcane and in overall fruits and vegetables production.

India is also the largest exporter of rice in the world. However, India is ranked at world's 10th in agricultural exports and contributes to only 2.15% of world's agricultural trade. This is estimated to change in the coming years, with the concerted efforts from entrepreneurs, support institutions and the Government.

In the light of changing food habits as well as surging preferences for organic and healthy products across the world, India stands a better chance of catering to the growing global needs. What India has achieved in rice exports is to be replicated soon in other agricultural and plantation products as well, after the world returns to normalcy.

Need for formal education

With its strength in farm production and a large base of about two-third of its total population involved in agricultural profession, our country is to play a significant role in fulfilling the global needs for agricultural products.

With the availability of large arable land, India aims to double its farm exports to $ 60 billion in 2022. This will result in the creation of ample prospects for new career as well as start-up opportunities in the country.

Needless to say, young graduates with adequate knowledge and competencies in foreign trade shall be most sought after, for assuming several professional roles in this sector.

A formal education with a focus on adequate training for our youngsters to manage complex challenges in the exports business will go a long way in meeting the techno-managerial talent needed for this sector.

But the existing structure of export education is mostly limited to certificate courses and short-term programmes which are offered by several institutes. Such students are trained to target the manpower needs of export business organizations, but are not adequately prepared for the managerial roles expected of them. On the contrary, a full-fledged 2 year Post-Graduate Management Degree focusing on exports sector will be an appropriate one for such needs, but, is unfortunately rare in our country.

IIPM

Leadership For Tomorrow

Business Management Programme on Agricultural Exports

A business management programme focusing on "Agricultural Exports" may be more ideal than a programme focusing on General Trade and Exports for tapping the emerging opportunities of employment and entrepreneurship in the growing agricultural trade.

Thus, when a Post-Graduate Export Programme aims to focus on Agricultural and Allied Products, it becomes even more valuable to students. This is the driving force behind the foray of Indian Institute of Plantation Management, Bengaluru (IIPMB) into this academic domain with its new AICTE-MHRD-GoI approved Full-Time 2-Year Post Graduate Diploma in Management: Agricultural Export and Business Management (PGDM: AE&BM; 2020-22),which is aiming to facilitate graduates of agriculture and allied disciplines to tap the new career prospects.

As an Autonomous Organization under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of Government of India, serving the nation for 3 decades in the domain of Business Management Education, Training & Consultancy related to Agribusiness, Commodities, Food & Beverages and Plantation Sector, IIPMB aims to train its aspiring students of PGDM:AE&BM to become professional managers and competent entrepreneurs in the agricultural exports sector.

When the temporary disruptions in logistics and fear of product infections disappear during the post-Covid period, India is poised to make huge headway in farm exports by virtue of its inherent strengths. The young post-graduates specializing in agricultural exports shall be able to make the most of these new opportunities.

Preparing students for the new window of opportunities

The PGDM:AEBM students can effectively capitalize on the emerging opportunities and can become precious assets for the business firms involved in foreign trade on account of their exposure, while at study, to business management principles, import/export policies, documentation procedures, funding sources, supply chain management, foreign market characteristics, international price risk and cross cultural diversity using varied learning methodologies such as interactive lectures, case study discussions, role plays, field assignments and corporate internships.

ELIGIBILITY NORMS FOR THE PROGRAM

Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture and Allied Sciences viz. Food Technology/Engineering, Horticulture, Fisheries, Forestry, Animal Husbandry & Livestock, Dairy, Sericulture, Biotechnology or Business Management, Commerce/ EXIM and other related disciplines from a recognised University or Institution with a minimum of 50% marks or equivalent CGPA (45% in case of SC, ST and Persons with Disability) with a valid score in CAT/ MAT/ATMA/CMAT/ GATE.

Besides, the students get to sharpen their soft skills related to team-working, problem-solving, decision-making, communication, creativity, specialized corporate training segment, and business negotiations which are crucial for succeeding in export business contexts.

With such a multidimensional approach to learning and skill development, students can effectively equip themselves with business acumen and capabilities to eventually target the executive positions in export business organizations related to the area of supply chain management, logistics, human resource management, financial management, forex trading, risk assessment and mitigation, international marketing, digital promotion, order processing& fulfillment, sales management, customer relationship, market research and so on.

Besides, students can eventually become capable of establishing their own export ventures as well, since they develop entrepreneurial competencies and mindset during entrepreneurship & business plan preparation courses, on-the-job corporate internships, case-writing and regular interactions with entrepreneurs.

The environment is also congenial for the growth of new start-ups in India, as our Government aims to increase the contribution of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) to over 60% of country's exports in 2 years from its current contribution of 45%. No doubt, a full-fledged super specialisation of education on Agricultural Exports is the order of the day!

IIPM is an autonomous organisation of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India, located at Jnana Bharathi Campus, Malathalli Post, Bengaluru

TRACKING COVID-19

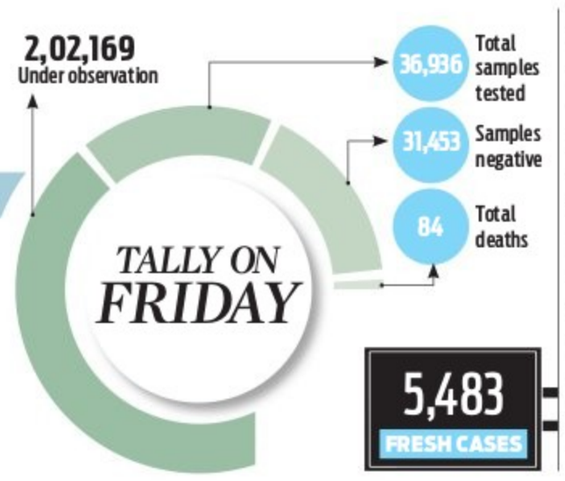
Chikkaballapur Deputy Commissioner R Latha spoke to Covid patients under treatment in various Covid Care Centres and asked them about the facilities, food arrangements, and infrastructure

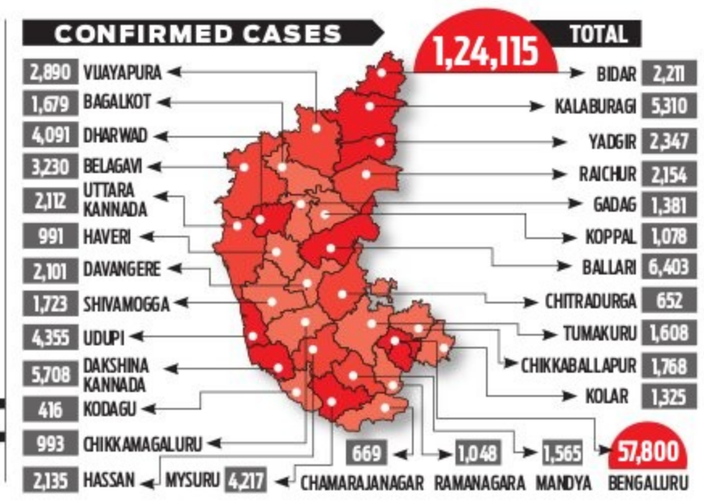
3,130 NEW RECOVERIES

49,788 TOTAL RECOVERED

HELPLINES
080-46848600
080-66692000

104 Arogya Sahayavani will function too





GLITCHES IN APP MAKE WORK DIFFICULT FOR CITIZEN SQUAD

Problems in keeping track of home quarantined, many frustrated volunteers drop out

IFFATH FATHIMA @Bengaluru

VOLUNTEERS of the Citizen Quarantine Squad (CQS), keeping track of people who need to be placed under home quarantine, are facing a problem as the "Quarantine Watch App" has been malfunctioning, making it difficult for them to keep track of home quarantined individuals.

The state government had developed the app, to which the home quarantined people were expected to send selfies to prove that they were following the isolation norms. Since many were violating the orders, CQS teams were formed to keep track of such individuals. But CQS volunteers too are finding it difficult to do their work as the face is riddled with glitches.

The volunteers said that the app suddenly crashes and restarts itself and data submission and syncing is not smooth. It is not compatible with iOS as it is developed only for Android phones. The app also has error in data, with duplication of names, wrong phone numbers and addresses.

Vehicles parked in front of a sealed area at Shivajinagar in Bengaluru | ARUNIMAA

A senior CQS volunteer, on condition of anonymity, said that so far 23,000 volunteers have registered, but only 13,500 are active. Now, with the app malfunctioning, another 3,000 have dropped out.

A volunteer from the Yelhanaka zone said, "We have to go to each house to check on the people who are under home quarantine and click the photo of the quarantine sticker. But when we reach a house and try to access the app, it does not work and we cannot upload the data. We are dedicating time in these times of crisis, but when we cannot upload the data, it is a waste of time. We have now created an Excel sheet to keep tabs on the data. The government should have handed over the task of developing and maintaining the app to a private company, who would have done a better job."

Volunteers from Madiwala and Bellandur said that if the internet is slow, the app restarts itself, gets hung and fails to load the Google Map. The submit button to upload the image too does not work most of the time. "The app suddenly goes blank and we have to switch off and on our phone. Half the time is wasted in fixing the app. We have brought it to the notice of core team head," they said.

Munish Moudgil, in charge of the state war room and also one of the officers behind the app, said, "Yes, there have been complaints and we are developing a new app. Also, backend upgradation is in progress. The problem is that 50% of the people have given wrong addresses and volunteers can't delete the information. Now we are bringing out separate lists in the app to make it easier for them."

FUN IN TIMES OF COVID

A group of children play in Kalasipalaya, which is shut for now and will continue to be under lockdown till August 31 | ARUNIMAA

BBMP slaps notices on four more hospitals for not reserving beds

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE list of hospitals denying beds and treatment to Covid19 patients is only getting longer and notices are being slapped on them under the Disaster Management Act, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Commissioner N Manjunath Prasad said on Friday.

He told the media that they are welcome to the idea of 4-5 hospitals coming together and reserving an entire hospital for Covid19 and shifting their patients to other hospitals.

He said, "Today, we inspected Vikram Hospital and found that they were charging Rs 5,500, instead of Rs 3,000, for CB NAAT test for Covid19 patients since July 24. In all, 44 patients have paid extra. A notice was served and the hospital agreed to refund all the patients."

On Thursday, notices were served on four hospitals for not reserving 50% beds. They are St Martha's Hospital on Nrupathunga Road, Rangadore Memorial Hospital in Shankarapuram, Shifa Hospital on Queens Road and Fortis Hospital on Cunningham Road.

The south zone team visited 19 hospitals and served them notices and closed OPDs till further orders. They also put up notices at the entrance of these hospitals.

Prasad said that rapid antigen tests are being done at 141 PHCs and to scale it up neighbouring empty buildings too are being used. Mobile testing vans have started going around the city, especially to containment zones. On Thursday, 5,000 samples were collected at 150 labs.

He asserted that once the BBMP has done the test, private hospitals cannot insist on another test from their collaborated private labs. Action will be initiated such hospitals, he warned.

MP Tejasvi Surya launched his initiative Covid Raksha – a digital solution for managing Covid operations in Bengaluru South – in the presence of Revenue Minister R Ashoka in Bengaluru | MEGHANA SASTRY

COVID WATCH

Two Customs officials, cargo staffers test +ve

Two Customs officials in the Cargo office and a few staffers of the major cargo operation handlers — Menzies Aviation Bobba Pvt Ltd and Air India SATS building – at KIA tested positive on Wednesday. The Air India Complex building, which houses these offices, was shut for sanitisation on Thursday and Friday. However, cargo operations continue unhindered, say sources. An official communication said that the offices have been shut to ensure sanitisation. **ENS**

KC General to increase ICU beds from 6 to 100

IFFATH FATHIMA @Bengaluru

WITH the number of Covid patients requiring admission into intensive care units increasing, KC General Hospital is expanding its ICU bed capacity from the present six to 100.

The hospital management has decided to use the IPP Building on the campus, where 50 ICU beds will be put up, and also the parking lot, where 50 mobile ICU containers will be stationed.

Hospital Medical Superintendent B R Venkateshaiah said, "Recently, DyCM Dr C N Ashwath Narayan visited our hospital and checked the facilities. He said that the IPP Building and the parking lot can be used to increase our critical care services. The work will get over by the second week of August and then the required infrastructure will be put in place. Increasing the number of ICU beds is a big task and we will require more manpower. The DyCM and health commissioner allowed us to recruit more anaesthetists, doctors, nursing staff, Group D workers and data entry operators."

Some medical staff at the hospital said they would be overburdened. "We have been told that recruitment is under progress, but not many are coming forward for Covid duties," they said.

HC disposes of PIL against private lab

ENS @Bengaluru

THE High Court has declined to entertain a PIL, seeking directions to a private lab at Nagarabhavi Circle not to conduct Covid tests or collect swab samples, as it is located in a residential area.

Disposing of the petition, a division bench of Chief Justice Abhay Shreeniwas Oka and Justice M Nagaprasanna said that just because there is a queue of people outside the laboratory, "we fail to understand how it poses a danger to residents."

The petitioners, S Gangappa and V Shivamurthy, residents of Nagarabhavi, sought the court's direction to Mediclu Diagnostics and Speciality Centre not to conduct Covid tests and to cancel permission given to the lab. On the grievance that the lab is not taking precautions, the bench said they can approach the District Health Officer and BBMP.

The bench noted that the petitioners were unable to point out any statutory provision which imposes embargo on setting up a Covid testing lab in a residential area.

108 team must ensure patients reach hospitals: Palike chief

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) announced on Friday that it is the responsibility of the 108 team to ensure that Covid and non-Covid patients, after undergoing tests, get admission at hospitals and are provided with beds.

In a circular signed by commissioner N Manjunath Prasad, a patient who needs psychological comfort, but is not under any kind of medical distress, shall be dropped off at the nearest healthcare facility and then to the designated Covid Care Centre by 108 services. There, the patient must be treated as a walk-in patient, using the SRF-ID.

The circular also states that 108 staffers will be provided access to the Covid Hospitals Bed Management System (CHBMS) so as to block beds in CCCs. This will also help the team block ICU and ICU-V isolation ward beds using the name and mobile number of the patient. Hospitals must tend to all patients admitted through the CHBMS, and must update all their details accurately on the portal. Bed allocation in hospitals should be done through the CHBMS portal, and no separate authorisation slips or referral letters are required.

Patients who are showing SARI symptoms but have not been tested, will be shifted to hospitals that have dedicated isolation beds for Covid-suspects, by 108 staffers.

The circular states that patients only need the SFR number at CCCs to be admitted. Providing proof that a patient has tested positive is the duty of the particular CCC.

Zone-wise patient details must be shared with the organisation StepOne on an hourly basis, the circular further read. StepOne conducts online triaging, and doctors remotely send their feedback and recommendations on the health status of patients.

8-year-old dies in Bengaluru as state tally rises to 1.24 lakh

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

BENGALURU Urban on Friday recorded the death of an eight-year-old, diagnosed with Influenza-like illness (ILI) and fever, at a private hospital, making her one of the youngest patients to fall victim to Covid-19.

As of Thursday, the state had recorded 4,588 positive cases of children aged below 10 years, with Bengaluru Urban accounting for 1,418.

The state's tally now has gone up to 1,24,115 positives so far, with 5,483 fresh cases reported on Friday.

A deserted K R Market which will continue to remain closed till August 31, as odered by ChieF Minister B S Yediyurappa, in Bengaluru on Friday | ARUNIMAA

The toll stands at 2,314 with 84 new fatalities. Of the deaths, contact tracing of 18 is under way, while the remaining were diagnosed with Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) and ILI. Also, the majority of them had comorbidities.

Bengaluru Urban's positive case count on Friday was 2,220, bringing the total to 55,544. With 20 new fatalities, the toll reached 1,029.

The recovery and mortality rates, however, have consistently shown improvement. On July 5, the recovery rate stood at 41.94 per cent, but it slid to 35.29 per cent on July 20. Later, however, the recovery rate has been clawing upwards with an increasing number of discharged patients, to bring the recovery rate to 40.11 per cent on Friday, with 3,130 patients being discharged. It was the second consecutive day of more than 3,000 recoveries.

But the state's recovery rate pales in comparison to the national average of 64.54 per cent with Delhi topping at 89.08 per cent, followed by Haryana at 79.82 per cent. However, on mortality rate, Karnataka has been doing much better than many other states and the national average.

EXPRESS READ

SDM Ayurveda Pharmacy unveils 'Ayush Kwath'

Udupi: SDM Ayurveda Pharmacy, Kuthpady, Udupi has taken a leap forward in boosting immunity among the masses. The recipe of a herbal decoction was handed out by the Ayush Ministry to the states asking them to promote commercial manufacturing of the formulation. Based on this, SDM Ayurveda Pharmacy that has created more than 300 varieties of medicines has now released the immunity booster medicine 'Ayush Kwath' to the market. The intake of 'Ayush Kwath' reduces the chances of infection, stated SDM Ayurveda Pharmacy. **ENS**

Doctors' task force to train village, GP-level teams across Dakshina Kannada

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Mangaluru

CONCERNED over the high mortality rate in Dakshina Kannada, the district administration has decided to set up a task force comprising doctors to conduct online training for ward and gram panchayat task force members. This is being done to ensure quick identification of infected people.

The task force will comprise doctors who are not on Covid duty due to comorbidities or other reasons. They will train ward and village-level task force members via social media on how to monitor the health of vulnerable people, quickly identify the infected and take necessary measures. Teachers and other interested people from villages can become volunteers and check on patients too.

Deputy Commissioner K V Rajendra said they have already conducted surveys and have a list of vulnerable people, and that increased surveillance will happen now. More tests will be conducted too, and Covid labs in the district will be used to their full capacity, Rajendra added.

On allegations of private hospitals overcharging Covid patients, the DC said he will hold a meeting with private hospital association members to remind them about the cap on treatment charges. If hospitals flout guidelines, action will be initiated. He also addressed the issue of patients getting contradicting reports from different hospitals, terming them as 'stray incidents' that will be addressed too.

Dakshina Kannada DC K V Rajendra

THREE STAFFERS AT MYSURU AIRPORT TEST POSTIVE

Mysuru: The city airport at Mandakalli reported three positive cases recently. According to sources, the infected includes an individual from the ATC, another from the police personnel manning the airport, and a contractual employee. However, authorities say that the cases were reported a couple of days ago and the airport has been sanitised and employees screened after that.

Cops fire in air while chasing suspects Nandini Layout police in Bengaluru opened fire in the air as a warning while chasing a group of people who were reportedly involved in a murder case. The incident was reported around 8.30 pm near Kolar Harohalli Gate

B'luru court rejects Poojary's bail in 13-yr-old case

Observes that the gangster is of an 'absconding nature' and may continue to commit similar offences if bail granted

MG CHETAN @Bengaluru

GANGSTER Ravi Poojary's bail plea, in connection with the Shabnam Developers case in which two were shot dead, has been rejected by a city court.

Poojary's counsel argued the case is 13 years old with some of the accused being acquitted and a charge-sheet submitted against Poojary. But the court observed the Poojary was "of an absconding nature" and may continue to commit similar offences if granted bail.

The 53-year-old, also known as Ravi Prakash, is facing more than 100 cases in Karnataka. He was extradited from Senegal and was brought to Bengaluru in February this year.

Ravi Poojary

While continuing the investigations in cases against him, the police had submitted a charge-sheet to the court in the 2007 Shabnam Developers shooting case reported in Tilaknagar police station. Poojary's counsel had moved a bail petition in the Principal City Civil & Sessions Court, on the grounds that there were no prima facie materials against the gangster and he was falsely implicated in the case. Besides, nine co-accused were acquitted as the prosecution failed to prove their involvement. Further, the defence counsel contended that the police had already submitted charge-sheet against Poojary. However, the prosecution objected granting of bail to the gangster, arguing that he was secured by the police with great difficulty.

After hearing the arguments of both sides, Judge Subhash Sankad observed, "I would like to mention here that the accused had been absconding for the past 12 years, and in other cases too, he was shown as absconded. The conduct of the accused shows that he is of an absconding nature and there is every chance of him fleeing from justice in the event of grant of bail. The prosecution has also stated that Poojary is an underworld don, and has been involved in several antisocial activities."

The accusation made against Poojary is heinous in nature and he is not of good antecedents, the judge, said noting that there is every chance of him continuing to commit similar offences if granted bail, while dismissing the bail petition on Thursday.

MADE IN KARNATAKA

Tumakuru-based Dhananjay Acharya promotes his 'My Mik' mobile app, claimed to be an alternative to TikTok, in Mysuru on Friday | UDAYSHANKAR S

EXPRESS READ

Woman found hanging, kin allege foul play

Bengaluru; The family members of a woman, who allegedly took her own life by hanging, staged a protest on Friday against her husband in front of Nelamangala Town police station, claiming that he murdered the woman and made it look like a suicide. They demanded his immediate arrest. The deceased, Nandini, (28), a resident of Arishinakunte village, was married to Rangaswamy, a gram panchayat member of Nelamangala. The couple have two kids. A police officer said that the incident took place on Thursday night. Nandini's mother Puttamma alleged that Rangaswamy was harassing Nandini over dowry and he had assaulted her a few times. Rangaswamy called Nandini's brother on Friday morning to inform him that she had committed suicide. The family arrived at Rangaswamy's house and called the police, who found external injuries. "Based on a complaint, case has been registered. We will arrest Rangaswamy," police said. **ENS**

15-yr-old girl gets bail from JJB in dad's death case

Bengaluru; The 15-year-old girl, who was arrested on charges of culpable homicide not amounting to murder in connection with the death of her father Saptak Banerjee (46), has been granted bail by the Juvenile Justice Board (JJB). The minor was booked by the Mico Layout police and sent to an observation home. The alleged incident had taken place on the night of July 22. Banerjee, a widower, had gotten into a fight with his daughter, as she objected playing keyboard in the night. Banerjee, reportedly in an inebriated state, had attacked the girl with a knife. In self-defence, the girl had picked up a pair of paper-cutting scissors, by which her father sustained stab injuries as he fell on her and the scissors pierced into his chest. The police had booked the girl for culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The police had produced the girl before the Juvenile Justice Board on Thursday, and the Board granted her bail. "Her relatives fulfilled the bail formalities, following which she was released," the police said. **ENS**

Reverse migration to rural areas this year helping farm sector, say officials

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

A senior official told *The New Indian Express* that this year, due to reverse migration to rural areas, the migrant workers are now working as farm labourers in villages where sowing has also been taken up in land that had been left uncultivated for many years.

Going by this trend, there could be an increase in sowing area and the state may surpass the 73 lakh hectares target. "We have to wait and watch," the official added.

Agriculture Minister B C Patil said good showers and availability of labourers in the fields has resulted in good sowing. "It is good news for farmers and we are hoping for better yield," he added.

According to the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Management Centre (KSNDMC), 471 mm rain is normally expected in the period from June 1 to July 31. This year, 445 mm rain was recorded, a deficit of 5 per cent. According to KSNDMC officials, deficit of up to 19 per cent is normal in meteorology terms. Last year, the state had witnessed deficit rainfall till July end.

Prof Rajegowda, former registrar, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru, said, "Since the 90s, the state never seen sowing in 73 lakh hectares. During some years, it was only between 30 lakh hectares and 50 lakh hectares. Every year, there would be delay in the onset of monsoon or less rains, which resulted in lesser area under sowing. This year, there has been good showers due to which workers could take up sowing."

The state likely to touch the target of 73 lakh hectares by the second week of August. This also means, farmers can go in for long-duration crops. With good rains and early sowing, good yield can be expected, he added.

Comparison figures (Sowing up to July-end)

Crop	2019	2020
Maize	9.61 lakh hectares	10.68 lakh hectares
Groundnut	2.28 lakh hectares	3.46 lakh hectares
Greengram	2.41 lakh hectares	3.34 lakh hectares

> **Every year, there would be delay in the onset of monsoon or less rains, which resulted in lesser area under sowing. This year, there has been good showers due to which workers could take up sowing**
>
> Prof Rajegowda, former registrar, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru

SI ends life at official quarters

CHANNARAYAPATNA: A police sub-inspector, Kiran Kumar (34), of Channarayapatna town police station allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself at his official quarters in the town on Friday.

A police constable said the SI had gone to Janivara village where a youth was found murdered. He returned home after shifting the body to mortuary. Sources said he was upset with two murder cases reported within 24 hours in his jurisdiction. Kiran was reportedly afraid of suspension and expressed the same with colleagues and staff before taking the extreme step. Former PM Deve Gowda said the government should order a probe into his suicide. **ENS**

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027

E -TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited for the following project of Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited Project Area 1) Selection of Contractor for Integrated Social Housing Complex for Slum Household project at Rajaji nagar - Phase 1 in Thiruvananthapuram

Sl. No	Name of Project	E-Tender ID	PAC Amount (Exclusive of GST)
1	Selection of Contractor for Integrated Social Housing Complex for Slum Household project at Rajaji Nagar Phase 1 in Thiruvananthapuram.	2020_SCTLT_373980_1	Rs.51,59,70,760.72/-

Bid Submission Last Date: 20th August 2020, Thursday, 4.00 PM

Date and Time of Opening Price Bid: To Be Intimated Separately to Technically Qualified Bidders by e-mail. All the RFP documents and details are available on the e-Procurement Website. Bids are only accepted online on the Website https://etenders.kerala.gov.in

(Sd/-), CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

Indian Overseas Bank
Regional Office, 3rd Floor, Lakshminarayana Complex, 10/1, Palace Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru-560052

NOTICE TO CUSTOMER / PUBLIC

It is notified to all the stakeholders and general public that with effect from 10.08.2020, following branches of Indian Overseas Bank which fall under Indian Overseas Bank, Bangalore Regional Office Jurisdiction will be merged with the following branches due to operational and administrative convenience.

BRANCHES PROPOSED FOR MERGER	TO BE MERGED WITH
Specialized Large Corporate Branch (2897): 7, Srisailam, 1st Main Road, Gandhi Nagar, Bengaluru-560009.	**Bangalore City Branch (0011):** 7, Srisailam, 1st Main Road, Gandhi Nagar, Bengaluru-560009.
Nagarbhavi Branch (2632): No. 4, Outer Ring Road, Pappareddypalya, 11th Block, Nagarbhavi 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560072.	**Bangalore Vijayanagara Branch (2633):** 70/5, Suvarna Towers, Near BDA Complex, Nagarbhavi Main Road, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-560040.
Padmanabhanagar Branch (3677): No. 5, 80 Ft. Road, R.K. Layout, Padmanabhanagar, Bengaluru-560070.	**Banashankari 2nd Stage Branch (1298):** No. 28, 27th Cross, Banashankari II Stage, Bengaluru-560 070.
Sahakar Nagar Branch (3742): #553, Ground Floor, F Block, Sahakarnagar, Bengaluru-560092.	**Vidyaranyapura Branch (2837):** 570, Sri Sai Tower, HMT Layout, I Block, Main Road, Vidhyaranyapura, Bengaluru-560097.
Nagashettihalli Branch (2896): #1, 8th cross, Balaji Layout, Kodigehalli Main Road, Bengaluru-560092.	
Peenya Industrial Estate Branch (3746): No. 436, 10th Main Road, 14th Cross, Near Bhattara Hotel, Peenya 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560 058.	**Chikkabidarakallu Branch (2310):** 11, I Floor, Ravi Kirloskar Layout, Chikkabidarakallu, Tumkur Road, Bengaluru-560073.
Mysore Roopanagar Branch (3159): Site No. 825 J, Double Road, Roopa Nagar, Mysore District - 570026.	**Mysore Bhogadi Branch (2567):** 16/1, Landmark: Aroma Bakery, JC College Road, Bogadi 2nd Stage, Bogadi, Mysuru-570009.
Mysore Allanahally Branch (2568): No. 1, Sy. No. 6:3, Giridarshini Layout, Alanahalli Hobli, T Narasipur Road, Alanahalli 570028, Mysore District.	**Mysore KR Mohalla Branch (0264):** Sri Venkateswara Krupa, Chamaraja Double Road, K. R. Mohalla, Mysore-570024.

For further queries kindly contact your respective branches or call us on 080-22950189.

Date: 31.07.2020

By the order of Chief Regional Manager, Bangalore Region

Maha Rashtra Apex Corporation Limited
ESTD 1943

Regd. Office: 3rd Floor, Front Wing North Block, Manipal Centre 47, Dickenson Road, Bengaluru -560 042
CIN: L85110KA1943PLC001177, www.maharashtraapex.com, email:mracl.ho@manipal.com, Tel: 080-40313131

EXTRACT OF STATEMENT OF STANDALONE & CONSOLIDATED AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER/YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2020

(Rs in Lacs)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Standalone				Consolidated	
		Quarter Ended 31-3-2020 Audited	Quarter Ended 31-3-2019 Audited	Year Ended 31-3-2020 Audited	Year Ended 31-3-2019 Audited	Year Ended 31-3-2020 Audited	Year Ended 31-3-2019 Audited
1.	Total Income from Operations (Net)	2.77	120.62	244.16	571.00	566.37	988.53
2.	Net Profit/Loss from Ordinary Activities after Tax	(166.09)	256.56	(74.30)	595.37	1370.11	1002.44
3.	Net Profit/Loss for the Period after Tax (After Extra Ordinary Items)	(162.15)	298.79	1409.89	634.17	1372.45	1045.52
4.	Paid-up Equity Share Capital (Face Value Rs.10/- per Share	1409.19	1409.19	1409.19	1409.19	1409.19	1409.19
5.	Reserves*			7740.55	7740.55	8728.94	8728.94
6.	Basic	(1.18)	2.05	(0.53)	4.45	9.72	7.11
	Diluted	(1.18)	2.05	(0.53)	4.45	9.72	7.11

The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations,2015. The full format of the Quarterly/Yearly Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange Websites: **www.bseindia.com , www.nseindia.com** and on the company's website **www.maharashtraapex.com**

By Order of the Board,
For MAHA RASHTRA APEX CORPORATION LTD.,
Sd/-
(ASPI NARIMAN KATGARA)
MANAGING DIRECTOR (DIN-06946494)

Place : Bengaluru
Date : 30.07.2020

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda

44, SAIKRUPA, 17th Main, 6th Block, Koramangala Branch, BENGALURU – 560 095, Phone: 080 25506865/66
Email: VJKORA@bankofbaroda.com IFSC: BARB0VJKORA

POSSESSION NOTICE APPENDIX IV under Act- Rule 8(1) (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of **Vijaya Bank Now Bank of Baroda, Koramangala Branch, Bangalore** under the securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Sec.13(12), read with Rule-9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued **Demand Notice dated 17.03.2020** calling upon the Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantor **MR.S Naresh kumar and S Anand kumar** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being under **Rs.31,06,605.10** (Rupees Thirty One Lakhs Six Thousand Six Hundred Five and Ten Paisa Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor of the property having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Guarantor/Owner of the property in particular and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this the **27th day of July of the year 2020.**

The Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **BANK OF BARODA** for an amount of **Rs. 31,06,605.10** (Rupees Thirty One Lakhs Six Thousand Six Hundred Five and Ten Paisa Only) as on **01.03.2020** plus interest thereon along with cost.

Description of the Immovable Property: Residential site(Building) no. 240, Block-I formed out of Survey No. 254/2, ALN.SR(S) 38/95-96 bearing old V P Khata No. 1026, New Khatha No. 594/1184, House List no. 1184 situated at Begur Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk admeasuring 600 Sft under BBMP limits Bangalore, On the East by : Site No 263, On the West by : Road, On the North by : Site No.239, On the South by: Site No.241.

Date : 27.07.2020
Place : Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Bank of Baroda

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Retail Assets Central Processing Centre (RACPC-4) White Field (17753)
No. 117, Ground Floor, Opp. Vaidehi Hospital, White Field Road, Bengaluru-560 066.
Phone 080-28411010/28411020, Email: sbj.17753@sbi.co.in

Under Rule 8(1) **POSSESSION NOTICE** (For immovable property)

Whereas Account No: HBL-38692119857

The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **State Bank of India,** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated **19.02.2020** calling upon the Borrower: **Shri Hussain Nizamuddin S,** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.48,78,725.00** (Rupees Forty Eight Lakh Seventy Eight Thousand Seven Hundred And Twenty Five Only) as on **17.02.2020** and interest & expenses theron, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/ mortgager and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on **30.07.2020**

The borrowers/mortgager in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **State Bank of India** for an amount of **Rs.50,71,725.00** (Rupees Fifty Lakhs Seventy One Thousnd Seven Hundred Twenty Five Only) as on **27.07.2020** and interest from **28.07.2020** & expenses thereon.

The borrowers/ mortgager's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

SCHEDULE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY (ENTER PROPERTY) All the piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing Site No. 19, Khatha No. 83, BBMP Khatha No. 221/83/8/3/19, New PID No. 024-W0319-1, Situated at Hennur Village Kasaba Hobli Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, now coming under Jurisdiction of BBMP Limits Bangalore measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South (56.6+52.6)/2 feet totally measuring 2148 Sq feet, along with all rights, appurtences whatsoever underneath or above the surface and bounded as follows: East by: Property No. 18, West by: property No. 20, North by: 25 Feet Road, South by: Private Property.

SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY: Flat No. C-10, 2nd Floor Apartment of Keerthi Enclave to purchaser with a super Built Up Area of 1184 Sq feet and 355 Sq feet undivided share along with one Car Parking In stilt Floor.

Place: Bengaluru
Date : 30.07.2020

Authorized Officer & Chief Manager
State Bank of India,

DEFENCE FOOD RESEARCH LABORATORY, SIDDARTHANAGA, MYSURU - 570011

POSTPONEMENT OF WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR THE AWARD OF JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP (JRF), DRDO

ADDENDUM

The **Walk-in-interview** scheduled for the following posts on 06 Aug 2020 is postponed till further orders clue to COVID-19 Pandemic.

Sl. No	Fellowship	Total vacancies	DRDO Fellowship/ Project	Essential Qualification	Area/s of Research
1	Junior Research Fellow (JRF)	04	DRDO Fellowship	M.Sc with First class & NET/ GATE in JRF	MICROBIOLOGY
					FOOD SCIENCE/FOOD SCIENCE & NUTRITION
					FOOD TECHNOLOGY
					FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY / FOOD TECHNOLOGY/ FOOD SCIENCE / FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION

The candidates are advised to look at the DRDO Website/National Dailies on regular basis for further updates.

Sd/- SANTANU BANERJEE
S.A.O. Gr.-1, For Director
MYSURU-11

DAVP 10301/11/0044/2021

The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Limited
H.O, No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru - 560 018.

PUBLIC AUCTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Sri D.A.Raju, S/o Sri D.A.Anthony Dass, No.801, 76th A Cross, 6th Block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010, The debt due to Bank as on **29.07.2020** of **Rs.71,20,218/-** + Interest & miscellaneous expenses. Auction sale under the securitization and reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforce of Security Interest Act 2002 Section 13(4) of the Immovable properties mortgaged to The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd., is brought to Sale under **"AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION"on 17.08.2020, Monday at 11.00 am.**

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable residential property bearing Old No.801 & present No.801/1/2, 76th "A" Cross, PID No.21-17-1/2, 6th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-10, measuring East to West: 27 feet and North to South: 40 feet, in all measuring 1080 sq.ft., consisting of Ground Floor, First, Second & Third Floors (the title holder having absolute right over the schedule property except second floor of entire portion) and bounded on the East by: Site No.800, West by: Site No.802, North by: Government Property & South by: Road.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

(1) The public auction will be conducted in the premises of the Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Head Office No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru-560 018.

(2) For participation in the auction the intending bidders have to deposit an amount equivalent to 10% of the Reserve price of the property is Rs.7,60,671/- being cautioned deposit (Reserve Price of the property is Rs. 76,06,710/-). The cautioned deposit shall be forfeited by the bank without any prior notice, if the successful bidder fails to adhere to the terms of sale, time and commits default in any manner.

(3) The successful bidder should deposit 25% of the bid amount on the same day at the time of sale in cash/DD to the GMCB Ltd. and the balance within 15 days from the date of sale.

(4) The successful bidders shall bear all expenses like stamp duty, Registration fee etc., for getting the sale certificate Registered in his/her favour.

(5) The authorized officer shall have powers to accept or reject bids or postpone/cancel the auction without assigning any reasons thereof.

(6) For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending bidder may contact the undersigned at the GMCB Ltd., or through Telephone, they are at liberty to make their own assessment/enquiry about the property. Balance of tax and others charges has to be bourned by purchaser.

Note: The Auction Sale that was held on 23.07.2020 at 11.00 am in Bank premises could not proceed due to no bidder. Hence fresh Auction will be held on 17.08.2020

Sd/-
Authorised Officer,
The Grain Merchants' Co Operative Bank Ltd.,
26677552, 26506279

Place: Bangalore
Date: 29.07.2020

All the news. In just a click. Log to www.newindianexpress.com | THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby brought to the notice of the general public that I myself intend to purchase the schedule property from the owner **Smt. Jayalakshmamma** W/o. Shivegowda B.A aged 59 years R/at Bommenahalli Village, Godenahalli Post, Bindiganaville Hobli, Nagamangala Taluk, Mandya District, who represented that, she is the absolute owner in actual, physical possession of the same. Hence, the general public are hereby called upon that if any person/s have any sort of objections for the said sale transactions may notify the under signed within **7 (Seven) Days** from the date of publication of this public notice with documentary proof, thereafter it will be presumed that there are no claims of any sort and proceed with the purchase of the schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable Property Bearing Site No. 90, 'E' Khata No.150200300700823104 **Situated in Co-Op. Housing Federation Layout - 4th Phase formed by Karnataka State Co-op. Housing Federation Ltd.** lying within the boundaries of **Sy. Nos. 41 & 77 an BMRDA Approved Layout consisting of Sy. No. 41 & 77 of Chunchanakuppe Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South, Bangalore District** and bounded as follows **East to West :** 9.14 Mtrs. **North to South :** 6.10 Mtrs. Boundaries :
East by : Site No.61 **West by** : Road
North by : Site No.89 **South by**: Site No. 91

AJ. PURUSHOTHAM
(S/o. A.P. Jaya Ramachar)
53, 3rd Main, RR Residency,
Upkar Layout, Ullal, Bangalore-560091

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the general public that our Client intends to purchase the immovable property bearing No. 1058, BBMP Khata No.856/855/854/849/1058, Devarachikkanahalli Main Road, Bilekahalli Village, in Vijaya Bank Employees' Layout, Near Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore – 560 076, measuring on the northern side 64 ft.,, on the southern side 95 ft., on the eastern side 93.6 ft. and on the western side 23.6 ft., totally measuring 4651 sq. ft., together with a commercial building standing thereon, which is more fully described in the Schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as the "***Schedule Property***", from Mrs. Sobhana Mohan and Mr. M. K. Mohan.

Any person having any right, title or interest in the Schedule Property or having any objection to the sale must notify the undersigned with documentary proof thereof within **10 days** of this publication, failing which it shall be deemed that no person has any objection to our Client purchasing the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable commercial property bearing **No.1058, BBMP Khata No.856/855/ 854/849/1058, Devarachikkanahalli Main Road, Bilekahalli Village, in the layout formed by Vijaya Bank Employees' Co-operative Society Ltd., near Bannerghatta Main Road, Bangalore – 560 076,** measuring on the northern side 64 ft.,, on the southern side 95 ft., on the eastern side 93.6 ft. and on the western side 23.6 ft., totally measuring 4651 sq. ft., together with a commercial building standing thereon, and bounded on: **East by** : Property No.1057; **West by** : Road; **North by** : Property No.1059; and **South by** : Road

Kashyap N. Naik, Agraa Legal Advocates and Consultants
Address: 2nd Floor, Shivashankar Plaza, 19, Lal Bagh Road, Richmond Circle, Bangalore – 560027; Ph: 080-41680004
Place: Bangalore,
Date: 01.08.2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to General Public that the Original Documents w.r.t BDA Site # 2BM 741 located at OMBR, Bangalore has been Lost / Misplaced. All persons are informed hereby not to deal or carryout any transactions with any one on the basis of said missing documents and that I have also filed a police complaint with the jurisdiction Police Station last article report # 090801/2020 dated: 28.07.2020. Any one finds them may return it to the addressee stated below and any claim of whatsoever should intimate me in writing within 2 weeks from the date of publication.

1. Blue Print of Sanctioned licensed plan No. LP No. AD.Com / MDH / 0093 / 13-14, dated: 15.07.2013 w.r.t. amalgamated sites 2BM 741 / 743 / 745 OMBR Layout, Bangalore.
2. Absolute Sale Deed registered HLS-1-01540/13-14 dated: 21.06.2013 favouring Ashok K. Babu by M/s Bindu Promoters & Developers.
3. Absolute Sale Deed registered SHV-1-01491/2012-13 dated: 28.09. 2012 favouring M/s. Bindu Promoters & Developers by Mr. M. Muniramaiah and M. Gangadhar.
4. Sale Deed given in lien to land forfeited registered BDA-1-1352/2012-13 dated: 01.08.2012 favouring Mr. M. Muniramaiah and M. Gangadhar by Bangalore Development Authority represented by Dy. Secretary-4 BDA, Bangalore.
5. Allotment Letter No. 079085 dated: 12.06.2012, Possession Certificate No. 107972 dated: 04.08.2012 issued by Dy. Secretary-4 BDA Bangalore with respect to Site No. 2BM 741.

Ashok K. Babu, R/o. 502/2A,
3rd Main Road, 5th Cross, OMBR Layout,
Banaswadi, Bangalore - 560 043.
Mob: 93412 10273,
email: ashokbabu1955@yahoo.co.in

QuoteExpress
IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING
WINSTON CHURCHILL

Karnataka Bank Ltd.
Your Family Bank Across India.

Asset Recovery Management Branch, No.39/2, 2nd Floor, ASVNV Bhavan, Opp FKCCI Building, Kempegowda Road, Bengaluru-560009
Ph : 080-22955928/929
E-mail: blr.arm@ktkbank.com
Website:www.karnatakabank.com
CIN:L85110KA1924PLC001128

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the Authorised Officer of **KARNATAKA BANK LIMITED,** under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated **21.03.2020** calling upon the borrowers/mortgagors guarantors **(1)Mr.Trimurthy G S/o M. Govindaswamy Naidu (2) Mrs.Ambika Murthy W/o Mr.Trimurthy G (3) Mrs.Mahalakshmi C, W/o Mr.Govindaswamy Naidu, All 1,2 &3 are residing at: No.83, 3rd cross, E-Block Venkatadri layout, Pattanagere Rajarajeshwari Nagar Bengaluru 560098** to repay an amount mentioned in the notice being **₹11,83,276.43 (Rupees Eleven Lakhs Eighty Three Tousand Two Hundred Seventy Six rupees and Forty Three paisa only)** under Term Loan A/c **No.1117001600219801** along with future interest from **23.02.2020** within **60** days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers, the mortgagors and the guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers, the mortgagors and the guarantor and the public in general **that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below** in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 and 9 of the said Rules on this **29th day of July - 2020.**

The borrowers, the mortgagors and the guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property mentioned herein below and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Karnataka Bank Ltd., BTM Layout Branch, Bengaluru** for an amount of **₹ 12,62,242.43** under **Term Loan A/c No.1117001600219801** along with future interest from **23.07.2020,**plus costs.

[The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.]

Description of the Immovable Property

All that piece and parcel of Residential Site bearing No.83, measuring 1420Sqft. With buiding constructed thereon measuring 1879sqft.,situated at Rajarajeshwarinagar CMC, Khatha Sl.No.3248 in the layout formed in Survey No.9/3, at Pattanagere Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru south Taluk, also called (postal address) No.83, 7th Cross, Venakatadri Layout Krishna Garden-E Block Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore-560098. Boundaries of Property: East by: Road, **West by:** Site No.84, **North by: Road South by:** Site No.82.

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 29.07.2020
Sd/- Chief Manager & Authorised Officer Karnataka Bank Ltd.,

Karnataka Bank Ltd.
Your Family Bank Across India.

Asset Recovery Management Branch, No.39/2, 2nd Floor, ASVNV Bhavan, Opp FKCCI Building, Kempegowda Road, Bengaluru-560009
Phone : 080-22955928(Gen)/22955929(CM)
E-mail : blr.arm@ktkbank.com
Website :www.karnatakabank.com
CIN :L85110KA1924PLC001128

SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with provisio to rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is here by given to public in general and in particular to Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the secured Creditor, the **Actual Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Karnataka Bank Ltd, the Secured Creditor on **07.06.2017,** will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is What is" and "Whatever there is" on **15.09.2020** for recovery of **₹72,88,615.00 (Rupees Seventy Two Lakhs Eighty Eight Thousand Six Hundred and Fifteen Only) under TL A/c No.1117001600220201** along with future interest from **21.01.2020, plus costs,** due to the **Karnataka Bank Ltd, BTM Layout Branch,** the Secured creditor from - **(1) Mrs.Anitha N, W/o Mr.Channe Gowda, (2) Mr.Channe Gowda H, S/o Hanumappa, Both No.1 & 2 are Addressed at:** H.168, 5th A Cross, Akkayamma Nilaya, Narasimhaiah Layout, Vijinapura, Bengaluru - 5600**16, (3) Mr. Sunil Kumar N, S/o Mr.Nagaraju,** No.56, Chikka Banaswadi, Banaswadi Post, Bengaluru-560043,- being the borrowers /guarantors / mortgagors.

Reserve Price/Upset Price below which the property may not be sold: ₹ 53,75,000/- (Rupees Fifty Three Lakhs Seventy Five Thousand only)

DISCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Description of Property	Reserve Price	Earnest Money deposit	Date & Time of Auction
All that piece and parcel of vacant property bearing Site No.7, Khata No.7, Sy.No.278, measuring 2150 Sq.ft, situated at White Field Main Road, Amani Bellandur Khane Village, Marathalli, Ring Road, Bengaluru (being the Site carved out of land in Sy.No.278 of Amani Bellandur Khane Village, Varthur Hobli, Bengaluru Souith Taluk) witin the limits of BBMP belonging to Mrs. Anitha N & Mr.Channe Gowda H. Boundaries of the land: East by: Road, **West by:** Property of Sri. Narayana Reddy, **North by:** Property of Sri.Vishwanath, **South by:** Site No.8	₹53,75,000.00 (Rupees Fifty Three Lakhs Seventy Five Thousand Only)	₹ 5,37,500.00 (Rupees Five Lakhs Thirty Seven Thousand five Hundred Only)	**15.09.2020 from 10.30 A.M to 10.50 A.M**

(The borrower's/mortgagor's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset).

This Notice shall also serve as Notice under Sub Rule (6) of Rule (8) of Security Interest Enforcement Rules-2002 to the Borrower/Guarantors)

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to link in Karnataka Bank's Website ie.,www.karnatakabank.com under the head "Mortgaged Assets for Sale".

The E-auction will be conducted through portal https://bankauctions.in/ on **15.09.2020** from **10:30 AM to 10:50 AM** with unlimited extension of 05 minutes.The intending bidder/s are required to register their name at https:// bankauctions.in/ and get the user Id and password free of cost and get training i.e *online training on E-auction (tentatively on 14.09.2020)* from M/s 4 Closure, Mr.Sreekanth B (Asst.Manager), No.22, 5th Cross, Gurumahal Extension, Opp: Indian Hotel, K.G.Halli, Jalahalli (West), Bengaluru-560010 Mobile No:9515160061, E-mail: sreekanth@bankauctions.in

Date: 31.07.2020
Place: Bengaluru
For Karnataka Bank Ltd.
Chief Manager & Authorised Officer

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Sawalsa Mamta Hardikbhai**, D/o. Sri. Jogaram Kumawat, Aadhaar ID No. 381964706926, aged about 30 years, R/at A 20/23 West, Trinity Acres and Woods, Sarjapura Main Road, Ambalipura, Bangalore 560103, Karnataka, have changed my official names from **'Sawalsa Mamta Hardikbhai', 'Mamta Hardik Sawalsa' & 'Savlsa Mamata'** to **'GAURIKA'**. Vide affidavit dated 29.07.2020. Sworn before Advocate & Notary B.M.Chandrashekar, Bengaluru.

CORRECTION OF NAME

I, **KANNANKONARIL CHANDY THOMAS, S/o Late CK THOMAS,** residing at - House No 59, Sena Vihar, Kammanahalli Main Road, Kalyan Nagar PO, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560043, India, employed as LT. COL in Indian Army (Retd), declare that my name has been wrongly entered as KANNANKONARIL CHANOY THOMAS in my Service records maintained in the Indian Army Headquarters. The actual name of mine is **KANNANKONARIL CHANDY THOMAS** which may be amended accordingly. Sworn before Notary M.S. SATISH, vide affidavit dated 28.7.2020 at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **RAMESHWAR LAL SONI**, S/o. Radheshyam Soni, aged about 35 years, residing at No. 10, 2nd Cross, 7th Main, Subbanna Garden, Vijayanagar, Bangalore - 560 040, have changed my name from **RAMESHWAR LAL RADHESHYAM SONI** to **RAMESHWAR LAL SONI.** Vide affidavit dated 31-07-2020 sworn before Advocate & Notary K.C. Shashikala, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, PATITA PABAN PRADHAN, residing at No. 15/3, Vayuvihar, Challaghatta, Air Force Camp, Bangalore-560037, have changed my Minor Son's name from **PABITRA MOHAN** to **PABITRA MOHAN PRADHAN** vide affidavit Dated 29/07/2020 sworn before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, (OLD NAME) SRINIVASA ACHARYA.R, Residing at No. 71/1-1, Padma, Old Post Office Road, 7th Block (West), Jayanagar, Bangalore-560070, have changed my name to **(NEW NAME) SRINIVASA ACHARYA** vide affidavit Dated 31/07/2020 sworn before Notary Aravind Patil.G.G., Bangalore.

QuoteExpress
IT ALWAYS SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE UNTIL IT'S DONE
NELSON MANDELA

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)
ASSET RECOVERY MANAGEMENT - I, No.86, Spencer Tower ,MG Road, Bangalore-560 001.
Phone no.080-25588028, 25588641, Extn: 530, e-mail cb2366@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable/ Movable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable / movable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ARM Branch-1, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on **As is where is", As is what is",** and " Whatever there is on **02.09.2020,** for recovery of **Rs. 31,00,44,113/-** plus further interest and cost thereon due to the ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank from **1. M/s GCL PRIVATE LIMITED** at A 419-420, 10th Main 2nd stage Peenya Industrial Area Bangalore - 560058 **(now represented by Liquidator - Sri M V Sudarshan)** and Guarantors **2. Sri Harish B Kamath** S/o Sri B S Kamath (Late), **3. Smt Sangeetha H Kamath,** residing at No E -101, Town Shed, Avalahally, Yelahanka Hobli Bangalore- 560064, **4. M/s S K Enterprises (Rep by its Prop Smt Sangeetha H Kamath) 5. M/s Heat Treatment Co. (Rep by. Smt Sangeetha H Kamath)** Both 4. & 5 -Corporate Guarantors having office at No A-419, 9th & 10th Main 2" Stage Peenya Industrial Area Bangalore - 560058.

The Reserve Price, Earnest Money Deposits, Auction date, last date of submission of Bid details are as under. The Earnest Money shall be deposited by way of DD favouring Authorised Officer, Canara Bank, ARM Branch I, Bangalore OR through online (RTGS/NEFT/Fund Transfer - IFSC CODE CNRB0002366) to the credit of the account number 2366295000004, Canara Bank, ARM Branch I, Bangalore on or before **31.08.2020**

Sl No	Description of the immovable assets:	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Incremental value at Bid
a	All the piece and parcel of property know as shed No.A 419, situated at Industrial Estate, Peenya 2nd Stage, within the limits of Nallakadarenahalli Village, Yeshwantpur Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, totally measuring 838.49 Sq Mtrs comprising of an Industrial Factory Shed standing thereon in the name of M/s Heat Treatment Co. Bounded by North: Shed A 420; East: 9th Main Road, South: Private Property; West: 10th Main Road. All the piece and, parcel of property know as shed No. A 420, situated at Industrial Estate, Peenya 2nd Stage, within the limits of Nallakadarenahalli Village, Yeshwantpur Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, totally measuring 913.90 Sq, Mtrs comprising of an Industrial Factory Shed standing thereon in the name of M/s Heat Treatment Co. Bounded by: North: Road; East: Road, South: Shed No. A 419; West: Road.	Rs. 7,10,00,000/-	Rs. 71,00,000/-	Rs. 1 ,00,000/-
b	All the piece of land known as plot No.67 A & B of Sompura, 1st Stage, Industrial Area, comprised in Sy.Nos.12- Part of Bhartipura Village, Sompura Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru District, Measuring 12140 Sq.Mtrs, comprising of an Industrial Factory Shed standing thereon in the name of M/s GCL Pvt ltd. Bounded by North: Road No.26, South: Plot No.72 & 73 and Storm water drain, East: Plot No.68 E, F and 68 G, West: Storm water drain and plot No.66. Along with Machinery standing thereon.	Rs. 15,55,00,000/-	Rs. 1,55,50,000/-	Rs. 1,00,000/-

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website **(www.canarabank.com)** or may contact Chief Manager, ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.**9483532366** during office hours on any working day

Date : 31.07.2020
Place: Bangalore
Sd/- Authorised officer Canara Bank

Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd

APTUS
8B, Doshi Towers, 205, Poonamalle High Road, Kilpauk, Chennai-600 010.Telephone: 044-4565 0003

Possession Notice Appendix IV (rule8 (1) of the SARFAESI Act

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of **Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued **demand notice dated 28-10-2019** calling upon the borrowers

Mrs. S. Jayamala, Mr. C. Shankar and Mrs.Savitha to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being for Balance Transfer and BT - Top Up Loan of Rs.21,58,110/- (Rupees Twenty One Lakhs Fifty Eight Thousand One Hundred and Ten Only) Rs. 7,43,256/- (Rupees Seven Lakhs Forty Three Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Six Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **"Symbolic Possession"** of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 9 of the said rule **on this 29th day of July 2020.**

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd for an amount of Rs. 22,50,202/- (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Fifty Thousand Two Hundred and Two Only) & Rs. 7,99,955 /- (Rupees Seven Lakhs Ninety Nine Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty Five Only)** and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets

Description of the Immovable property:-

All that piece and parcel of the Property Schedule of the Property: All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Site No.14,Khatha No.52/3,BBMP Property No.52/3/14, Situated at Hongasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,Presently comes under the limits of BBMP, Bangalore, Measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 15 Feet in all measuring 600 Sq.Fts and bounded on: East By : Road, West By : M.Ramayya Property, North By : Site No.13, South By : Remaining Portion of the same property. **Boundaries: North By :** Site No.13, **South By :** Remaining Portion of the same property, **East By :** Road, **West By :** M.Ramayya Property.

Date : 29.07.2020
Place : Begur Hobli
Sd/- Authorised Officer
Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd

HDB FINANCIAL SERVICES

Registered Office: Radhika, 2nd Floor, Law Garden Road, Navrangpura, Ahamedabad - 09.
Branch Office: HDB Financial Services Limited, 68/2 – 4th Floor, Loyal Towers, Greams Road,Thousand Lights, Chennai – 600 006 – Tamil Nadu.
Web:www.hdbfs.com, Email ID: compliance@hdfs.com CIN: U65993GJ2007PLC051028

DEMAND NOTICE Under sec 13(2) SARFAESI ACT 2002

You the below mentioned applicant and co - applicants availed a loan facility by creating security interest in favour of our company , As per the records of the company , there are irregularities observed of the repayment of the loan amount due to the mentioned irregularities of the loan accounts stands as NON PERFORMING ASSET in the companies book of accounts and pertinent to mentioned out here in the event of the multiple defaults in the repayment of the funded amount, The company intimated all of you on the discontinuation of the agreement through the loan recall notice issued. However all of you continued defaulting the repayment of the funded amount without taking any efforts towards the closure of the loan account. for the recovery of the outstanding dues,issued Demand notice 13(2) of the sarfasi act 2002.The contents of which are being published herewith as per 13(2) of the act R/w 3(1) of the security interest enforcement rules 2002,by way of alternative service upon the Applicants &Co-Applicants since notice not served. Details of the Applicant /Co-Applicants /Gurantor outstanding dues Secured properties are as under:

1. Name of the applicant /Co applicants: 1. SARASWATHI FLORALS, Sf No. 45/2A2-3A2, Choodagondapalli Village, Palavanapalli, Bagalur Rural, Hosur, Krishnagiri-635115 **2. KUMAR V,** No 86 Reliable Tranquil 5Th Cross Harlur Village Varthur Bangalore-560068. **3. V SARALA VERUJOPAL,** Property No. 26, 18th Mainsarakki ,JP Nagra, 6th Phase, Bangalore-560078. **4. VIJAYA LAKSHMI KUMAR,** No 86, Reliable Tranquil, 5th Cross Harlur Village, Varthur, Bangalore-560068.

Loan A/c No.4922819, Loan recall notice dated 17.07.2019, Demand notice dated 12.06.2020, NPA dated on 03.10.2019, Outstanding dues Rs. 89,86,754.87 (Rupees Rupees Eighty Nine Lakhs Eighty Six Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Four and Paise Eighty Seven) as of 08.07.2020 and future contractual interest till actual realization together with incidental expenses, cost and charges etc.

Details of the secured property: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No 26, 18th Main Road, Sarakki 2nd stage, JP Nagar, Bangalore, with built up area of approx. 16 squres comprising 2 storeys ward No. 57, ad-measuring East to West 10.52 meters and North to South 9.14 meters and **bounded on:** North: Site no 25, South: Site no 27, East: Site no 7, West: Road.

Therefore the company calls upon to discharge in full your liabilities stated here in above within 60 days from the date of this notice. Your outstanding liability owing to the company as per the contractual rate on the aforesaid amount together with incidental expenses , cost , charges, Borrowers attention is invited to provisions of sub section 8 of the sec 13 Act.in respect of time available to redeem the secured Assets , Any non complaince of Sec 13(13)of the said act is an offence punishable under section 29 of the Act you shall not transfer by sale ,lease or otherwise the said security property detailed in schedule above said of his notice without obtaining written consent of the company

Place: Bangalore
Date: 01-08-2020
For HDB Financial Services Ltd., Authorised Officer.

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the authorized officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** (Formerly known as Jana Lakshmi Financial Services Limited)., under the Securitization And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued demand notices to the borrower(s)/ Co-borrower (s) calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned against the respective names together with interest thereon at the applicable rates as mentioned in the said notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notices, along with future interest as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc., incurred till the date of payment and/ or realisation.

Sr. No.	Loan No.	Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	13(2) Notice Date/ Outstanding Due (in Rs.) as on	Date/Time & Type of Possession
1	**30198850007284**	**(1) M/S. JAYA SAI DRIVING SCHOOL,** Represented by its Proprietor **Mrs. P.Jamuna, 2) Mrs. P.Jamuna, 3) Mr. Manoj Kumar S, 4) Mr. Supreeth S**	**Rs.10,58,128/-** as on 09.06.2019	**27.07.2020 Time: 12.07 P.M Symbolic Possession**
	Description of Secured Asset: All that Piece and parcel of Immovable property beaing Northern portion of property bearing Katha No.17, Assessment No.5/7, Devarachikkanahalli Village, Bommanahalli Nagarsabhe, BegurHobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 40ft & North To South: 15ft in all measuring 600 Sq.ft along with Building **and bounded on the:- East by:** Property belonging to Srinivas Reddy; **West by:** Road; **North by:** House of Shankar Reddy & Manjula; **South by:** Remaining portion of property standing in the name of S.Kasalingam.			

Whereas the Borrower's/Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors, mentioned herein above have failed to repay the amounts due, notice is hereby given to the Borrower's mentioned herein above in particular and to the Public in general that the authorised officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has **taken possession** of the properties/ secured assets described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the dates mentioned above. The Borrower's/Co-Borrower's/Guarantor's/ Mortgagors mentioned herein above in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the aforesaid properties/Secured Assets and any dealings with the said properties/ Secured assets will be subject to the charge of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited.**

Place: Bangalore
Date: 31.07.2020
Sd/- Authorised Officer
For. Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK
Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.
Branch Office: Divyashree Chambers, #11, O'Shaughnessy Road, 5th Floor, "A" Wing, Off Langford Road, Shanthi Nagar, Bengaluru-560025.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, **PRANAY KUMAR CHIRUKONDA,** S/o Sri. Linga Rao Chirukonda, R/at Flat No.A-28, Bharat Regency Apts, Anand Nagar, Colony, Marathahalli, Bangalore-560037. I had loss the Original Sale Deed dated 08/02/2018 registered as Document No.11027/2017-18 Book-I, CD No.MDPD226 in respect of Flat bearing No.C-302, Third Floor, 1370 Sq ft SBA and 404 Sq ft UDS C Block, Building Known as SUMADHURA LNR LAKE BREEZE situated at Siddapura Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk. I lodge a complaint in this aspect. Accordingly, today I intended to lodge a complaint in the concerned Jurisdictional Police Station to procure lost document. If anybody found the said the original Document please handover to the above said Address. Contact: 8095811156

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that I have lost the Original Sale Deed /Title Deed, vide document No.10113, in Book No.1, Volume No.2384, in pages194 to 197 in the Office of Sub-Registrar, Bangalore North, Bangalore, dated: 19-03-1964 any person or persons if found the above documents kindly contact SRI. PERIYASAMY.G. (Present Owner), Mobile No. 9632330479.

Can Fin Homes Ltd.

CanFinHomes Ltd (Sponsor: CANARA BANK) HOME LOANS • DEPOSITS Translating Dreams into Reality
CIN: L85110KA1987PLC008699
Vijayanagar Branch: 148/E, Sri Siddalingeshwara Towers 17th Main, East of Chord Road, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-40
Phone: 080 – 23404965/23359162, Mob: +91 76250 79459,
E-Mail: vijayanagar@canfinhomes.com

POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule 8 (1)]

The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd. under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of the powers under the said Act and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice dated **02.03.2020** calling upon the borrower **Mr. Jinse Joseph and Mrs. Neema S** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 28,61,880/-** and interest from **03.03.2020** to till date of final payment within 60 days from the date of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on the **29th day of July of the year 2020.**

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **CFHL** for an amount of **Rs. 28,61,880/-** and interest thereon .

Description of immovable property

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the Residential Site bearing Khatha No. 1720/102/70, Old Katha No: 276/102/70, carved out of Sy. No. 102 (New Sy No 102/2) measuring East to West: 120 Feet and North to South: 80 Feet, in all measuring 9600 Square Feet Carved out of residentially Converted Land bearing Sy. No. 102/2 (Vide Conversion Order No. BDS.ALN.SR(S) 294/98-99 Dated 21.9.1999 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru District, Bengaluru) situated at 15th Cross, Neeladri Nagar, Doddathogur Village, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk and bounded on the: East by:Road, West by : Property No 55, North by: Property No. 69 and South by :Property No. 71.

Consisting of Car Parking in the Basement, Ground, First, Second and Third Floors of Residential Apartment known and called as "SAI RANGA ENCLAVE".

**SCHEDULE `B' PROPERTY:** 230 Square Feet of Undivided share, rights, title and interest in the Schedule `A' property.

SCHEDULE `C' APARTMENT: Residential Apartment bearing Flat No 304, 2BHK Situated in the Third Floor having a total super built up area of 1050 Square Feet, along with One Covered Car Parking space in the basement of the Residential Apartment known as "SAI RANGA ENCLAVE" constructed on Schedule 'A' Property, inclusive of proportionate share in common area such as passage, lobbies, stair-case, lift, terrace, set-back area and other areas of common use, Vitrified Tiles flooring, doors and windows are made of ordinary wood having amenities like Electricity, Water and Sanitary, etc., AND BOUNDED ON: East by : Airspace & Flat No 303, West by: Staircase & Flat No 305 North by : Corridor & Flat No 302 South by : Airspace & Setback Area

Date : 31.07.2020
Place : Vijayanagar, Bengaluru
Sd/- Authorised Officer Can Fin Homes Ltd.

YES BANK

Regd Off: Yes Bank Tower, IFC-2, 15th Floor, Senapati Bapat Marg, Elphistone (W), Mumbai – 400013. Branch Off: Prestige obelisk, Municipal No.3, Ground Floor, Kasturbaa Road,Bangalore-560001.
Mail:communications@yesbank.in, website: www.yesbank.in.CIN:L65190MH2003PLC143249,

Sale notice for sale of immovable property

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and to the Borrower(s), Co-Borrowers and Guarantor(s) in particular that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Yes Bank Limited (Secured Creditor), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 28th August 2020, at 11.30 A.M., at Yes Bank Limited, 8th Floor, Prestige Obelisk, Municipal No 3, Kasturba Road, Bangalore-560001, for recovery of Rs.3,67,383/- (Rupees Three Lakh Sixty Seven Thousand Three Hundred and Eighty Three Only) as on 01-07-2019 due to Yes Bank Limited, secured creditor, from the Borrower (1) Mr. Shivalinge Gowda S.T. ("Borrower/ Mortgagor"), residing at No.38, Vinay Nilaya, Church Street, Maheshwari Nagar, Near BEML Show Room, Bangalore-560048, and also at No.B-129, Dyvasandra Industrial Estate, Mahadevapura Post, White Field Road, Bangalore-560098. and (2) Mrs. Pavithra H.V. ("Co-Borrower") residing at No.38, Vinay Nilaya, Church Street, Maheshwari Nagar, Near BEML Show Room, Bangalore-560048. The reserve price will be Rs.3,50,000/-(Rupees Three Lakh Fifty Thousand only) and the earnest money deposit (EMD) will be Rs.35,000/- (Rupees Thirty Five Thousand only) respectively.

Description of property: All that piece and parcel of the residential site bearing No. 25, formed in residentially converted land bearing Sy No.85/3 measuring 36 ½ Gunta, and Sy No.86 measuring 2 Acres 29 Gunta, situated at Saganahalli Village Kasaba Hobli, Gowribidanur Taluk, converted by the Deputy Commissioner, Chikkaballapura, vide no. ALN (GOW) SR.SAKAL.213/2015-16 dated 19.12.2016 together with amenities like Road, Electricity, water and Sanitary etc., and Measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet-Plot admeasuring 1200 square feet and Bounded on East by: 30 feet Road; West by: Site No.42; North by: Site No.26; and South by: Site No.24.

Date and time of e-auction: 28.08.2020, 11 am to 2 pm with extension of 5 minutes each
Last date for submission of bid: 27.08.2020 till 6pm.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in http://10.0.49.5/about-us/media/auction-property Secured Creditor's website i.e. www.yesbank.in.

In case of any difficulty in obtaining Tender Documents/ e-bidding catalogue or Inspection of the Immovable Properties / Secured Assets and for Queries, Please Contact Concerned Officials of YES BANK LTD., Mr.Ranjith Kumar.R, on +91 9886556553, Email :- ranjithkumar.r@yesbank.in and Mr. Sharath Kumar P on +919148937885 Email : sharathkumar.p@yesbank.in or Officials of M/s. e-Procurement Technologies Limited (Auction Tiger), Bidder Support Numbers : 079-61200587 / 509. Praveenkumar Thevar - M: 972 277 8828 / Land Line:- 079 61200595, E: praveen.thevar@Auctiontiger.net & Mr. Madhusudan Nair - M:9686999578, karnataka@auctiontiger.net. Email :- support@auctiontiger.net.

SALE NOTICE TO BORROWER/GAURANTORS

The above shall be treated as Notice to the Obligants to pay the same within 30 days from the date of publication.

Date: 01.08.2020
Place: Bangalore
Sd/- Authorized Officer

PUBLIC NOTICE-AUCTION CUM SALE OF PROPERTIES

Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrowers and Guarantors that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Asset Reconstruction Company India Ltd (Arcil)** an Asset Reconstruction Company registered with Reserve Bank of India under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act,2002. Arcil has acquired from the banks / financial institutions mentioned below the financial assets and has acquired the rights of the Secured Creditor. The assets will be sold on on **"As is where is", "As is what is",** and **"Whatever there is"** basis as per the brief particulars given hereunder as per below mentioned schedule:

Sr. No	Loan Account Number / Name of Bank	Name of Original Borrower/Co-Borrower / Guarantor	Trust Name	Type /Size in / Nature of Property	Total dues Outstanding in INR (As on 29.07.2020)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in INR	Reserve Price (Rs.) in INR	Date of Inspection	Date and Time of Auction	Type of Possession
1	404SHL31694131 / 404SHL31694068 / Bajaj Finance Ltd	**Karthikeyan D**	Arcil Retail Loan Portfolio 042-C Trust	Flat / 1418 Sq.ft & Freehold	1,13,19,940.81	4,40,000/-	44,00,000/-	07.08.2020 & 10.08.2020	**17.08.2020 & 12.00 PM**	Possession under CMM/DM/ CJM order.
	Secured Property Address: New Municipal No. 21/11, Old Flat No. C-4, New BBMP PID No. 74-40-21/11, in the Third Floor, comprised in the multistoried residential building known as "Sri Saikrupa Enclave", Situated at Govindappa Road, Kodihalli, Bangalore.									
2	404HML64986905 / Bajaj Housing Finance Ltd	**Nagamani P / Mrs. P Pushpavathi / M/s. Tawa Sagara Restaurant**	Arcil Retail Loan Portfolio 059-A Trust	Flat / 1480 Sq.ft & Freehold	58,21,993.73	2,70,000/-	27,00,000/-	07.08.2020 & 10.08.2020	**17.08.2020 & 12.30 PM**	Possession under CMM/DM/ CJM order.
	Secured Property Address: Flat No. 202 on the First Floor of Block A, PID Khatha No. 150200102900720445, Grama Panchayati Property No. (489/FF202) in the building known as 'Pioneer Sun Blossom' situated at Maragondanahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore, South Taluk.									

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING AUCTION PROCESS

1	**Auction Date**	As prescribed herein above	5	**Last date for Submission of EMD**	Same day 2 hours before Auction
2	Place for Submission of Bids and Place of Auction in Bengaluru	Office NO.305, 3rd Floor Kedia Arcade, #92, Infantry Road (Online or in person depend upon Covid-19 situation)	6	**All payments including EMD to be made by way of Demand Draft payable at**	Bengaluru
	Bid can also submitted in online. **satheesh.r@arcil.co.in. shivashankar.ub@arcil.co.in. kamal.mishra@arcil.co.in.**	**(Online or in person depend upon Covid-19 situation)**	7	**Name in whose favour Demand Drafts to be drawn**	The name as shown in Trust Column against each property
3	**Web-Site For Auction**	**www.arcil.co.in**	8	**Time of Inspection**	**10.00 am - 5.00 pm (Note: Date & Time of inspection may be changed in view of Covid-19 situation).**
4	**Contact Persons with Phone Nos.**	**Satheesh R: 9738141146 / Shivashankar UB: 8073722285 / Kamal Mishra: 09819820760**			

*A bidder may, on his own choice, avail the facility of online participation in the auction by making application in prescribed format which is available along with the offer/tender document on the website address mentioned herein above. Online bidding will take place at website of organisation as mentioned herein above, and shall be subject to the terms and conditions contained in the tender document. The Tender Document and detailed Terms & Conditions for the Auction may be downloaded from our website www.arcil.co.in or the same may also be collected from the concerned Branch office of **Arcil** as stated above. Please note that sale shall be subject to the terms and conditions as stated in the Bid Document. Sale is strictly subject to terms and conditions incorporated in this advertisement and the prescribed Bid/Tender Document. The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any/all bids without assigning any reason. This notice is also to be treated as a notice under Rule 8 and 9 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002.

Place: Bengaluru
Date: August 01, 2020
Authorized Officer
Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Ltd.

Arcil Premier ARC
Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Ltd. **Corporate Identification Number: U6599MH2002PLC134884**
Registered Office: The Ruby, 10th Floor, 29 Senapati Bapat Marg, Dadar (West), Mumbai - 400 028, **Tel: +91 2266581300, www.arcil.co.in**
Branch Address: Office NO.305, 3rd Floor Kedia Arcade, #92, Infantry Road, Bangalore - 560 001, **Tel : 080 25598054/55**

In a breakthrough in the sensational gold smuggling case through the diplomatic channel, the chartered accountant of M Sivasankar, former principal secretary to CM Vijayan, might have told Customs that Sivasankar had advised Swapna Suresh to use the bank locker facility

Decks cleared for 3-capital bill in AP

Andhra Guv Biswa Bhusan Harichandan gives assent 7 months after Jagan's dramatic announcement

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Vijayawada

Andhra Pradesh Governor Biswa Bhusan Harichandan on Friday gave his assent to two bills -- The Andhra Pradesh Decentralisation and Inclusive Development of all Regions Bill and APCRDA Repeal Bill, paving the way for the formation of three capitals – Legislative in Amaravati, Executive in Visakhapatnam and, Judicial in Kurnool.

The Governor's consent comes seven months after Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's dramatic announcement in the State Assembly. It remains to be seen when the executive capital will be moved to Vizag. Officials sources said it could be in October or at any cost by the new year.

However, with a plethora of petitions filed by the TDP, Amaravati Parirakshana Samithi and others, pending in the High Court, opinion is divided on whether the Decentralisation Act will pass legal muster.

YSRC workers celebrate the governor's approval for the Bill in Visakhapatnam on Friday | EXPRESS

The crux of the matter, some legal experts point out, is in shifting the High Court to Kurnool. "The High Court was established in Amaravati following a presidential notification and with the consent of the Supreme Court. To overturn a Presidential Proclamation, is not possible through an Act enacted by the State Legislature. It will have to be ratified by the President," a prominent lawyer told TNIE on condition of anonymity.

Nonetheless, the government is confident that the Act will not face legal hurdles and official sources recalled that the Centre has made it clear time and again that Capital is a state issue and the Central Government has no role in it.

During its last hearing on the capital issue, the High Court, in reply to the submissions of the petitioners challenging the three capitals, said it will take care of the matter if the Governor gives his assent to the bills before its verdict.

The Governor's assent is a culmination of a drama that began in December last. The State Government had introduced the bills in the Assembly and the Council in January this year. The Council, dominated by the TDP, had then referred the bills to a select committee. However, the legislature secretary did not form the committee.

Subsequently the state government sent the bills to the Assembly for the second time in the recently concluded budget session. The same were passed by the Assembly and sent to the Council, which did not take it up. As per rules, since the Council did not take a call for the second time, the Government sent the bills to the Governor for approval -- Deeming them to have been passed by the Council.

DESPERATE TIMES

Woman pledges last possession, buys TV so that kids don't miss lessons

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Gadag

Nothing was so dear for this woman that she would let her children go without access to schooling in these Covid times when teaching has gone online. Without batting an eyelid, Kasturi Chalawadi from Radder Naganur village near Naragund in Gadag district pledged her mangalasutra, her last possession, to buy a television set so that her two children can catch up on lessons being telecast on the DD Chandana channel.

Kasturi's son and daughter are studying in the seventh and eighth standards, respectively. With schools remaining shut due to the lockdown norms, lessons for all classes are being taught on the state-run television channel. But the family did not have a TV and the children could not catch up on the classes.

Kasturi and her husband had already borrowed money for her older daughter's marriage last year. With no other means of securing a loan, Kasturi decided to pledge her Mangalya and buy a TV, and her husband readily agreed to it. Both went to Gadag on Thursday, pledged her mangalasutra for Rs 20,000 and bought a TV for Rs 14,000.

Kasturi said that the teachers used to call her children every day to follow the classes on TV. "But they were upset as we did not have a TV at home. Even after the relaxation of the lockdown, we are not getting work every day and we had used up all our savings during the interim. Hence, there was no other way for me than to pledge my mangalasutra," she said.

"I want my children to become officers and they should not lead a life like us. Now they are happy that they can catch up on lessons," she added.

Kasturi Chalawadi's children catch up on TV lessons at their home in Gadag district

I want my children to become officers and they should not lead a life like us. Now they are happy that they can catch up on lessons

Kasturi Chalawadi

Kateel picks his team; Vijayendra elevated, made state vice-prez

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

BJP state president Nalin Kumar Kateel on Friday announced his new team of office-bearers. While Kateel has chosen to retain many incumbent vice-presidents and general secretaries, the highlight of Friday's announcement was the elevation of Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa's son B Y Vijayendra as BJP state unit vice-president.

Vijayendra's rise from the post of state Yuva Morcha general secretary to state vice-president comes at a time when the party is trying to dispel murmurs of unrest in the government. The appointment comes as an acknowledgement of Vijayendra's key role in ensuring victory for BJP in the KR Pet bypolls last December. Two recently elected Rajya Sabha members handpicked by the Central leadership from Karnataka — Eranna Kadadi and Ashok Gasti — have been given charge as president of Raitha Morcha and Backward Classes Morcha, respectively.

Kateel announced names of 10 vice-presidents, retaining the likes of Aravind Limbavali, Tejaswini Ananthkumar, Shobha Karandlaje, four general secretaries, 10 secretaries, two treasurers, office secretary and presidents of various wings including women, youth, farmers and backward classes morcha. The team also includes former MLC Captain Ganesh Karnik who has been named spokesperson.

The much-delayed appointments come one year after Kateel was appointed state BJP president. "Regional balance has been emphasised on. Office-bearers are from various districts. Many were given a second term," said N Ravi Kumar, state general secretary, who has been retained in his post.

Maalikaiyya Guttedar, who played a key role in ensuring Mallikarjun Kharge's defeat in Lok Sabha polls, and Nirmal Kumar Surana who lost out on the MLC candidature, have been accommodated as vice-presidents while leaders from Bengaluru like Satish Reddy, Tulasi Muniraju Gowda, who have had to let go of their constituencies to accommodate former rebel MLAs of the JDS-Congress coalition, have been appointed as office-bearers too.

Keen to focus on BBMP polls, the state BJP office bearers' list tills towards Bengaluru-based leaders like Aravind Limbavali, Satish Reddy and Dr Sandeep. Right from vice-presidents to secretaries, the office-bearers will focus on specific regions for strengthening the party at the grassroots.

B Y Vijayendra

Shobha Karandlaje

Vice-presidents

Aravind Limbavali, Nirmal Kumar Surana, Shobha Karandlaje, Maalikaiyya Guttedar, Tejaswini Ananthkumar, Prathap Simha, M B Nandish, B Y Vijayendra, M Shankarappa and M Rajendra

General Secretaries

N Ravikumar, Siddaraju, Ashwathnarayana, Mahesh Tenginakaayi

Satish Reddy

Tulasi Muniraju Gowda

State Secretaries

Satish Reddy, Tulasi Muniraju Gowda, S Keshava Prasad, Jagadish Hiremani, Sudha Jayarudresh, Bharathi Magdum, Hemalatha Naik, Ujwala Badavannache, K S Naveen and Vinay Bidare

State Treasurers
Subbanarasimha and Lehar Singh

Office Secretary
Lokesh Ambekallu

Party Spokesperson
Ganesh Karnik

Coordinator
M B Bhanuprakash, A H Shivayogaswamy

Youth wing: Dr Sandeep

Women's wing: Geetha Vivekananda

Farmers' wing: Eranna Kadadi

Backward Classes wing: Ashok Gasti

SC Wing: Chalavadi Narayanaswamy

ST wing: Tipparaju Havaldhar

Minority wing: Mujamil Babu

'Tailor-made NEP for K'taka to be ready this month'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

KARNATAKA will be one of the first states in the country to systematically implement the new National Education Policy (NEP), Primary and Secondary Education Minister S Suresh Kumar said on Friday.

The minister has already consulted officials on the implementation of NEP, and said a blueprint that suits the requirements of the state will be brought out soon. The government was aiming to come up with the customised policy by August 20, he added.

During a webinar session with K Kasturirangan, who presided over the draft NEP committee, the minister thanked the space scientist on behalf of the state for bringing out a policy that is expected to drastically improve the education system in the country.

"Though Kerala is my janmabhoomi (birthplace), Karnataka is my karmabhoomi (workplace), Karnataka is my state. The NEP has been formulated keeping in mind the various aspects of India's topography. I am confident that the new NEP will greatly help India achieve holistic development in the next 20 years," Kasturirangan said in response.

Kasturirangan said Karnataka's contribution in the formulation of the new NEP has been immense as several key elements that are already in place in the state have been incorporated. He also praised the state's education expert MK Sridhar for his contribution in formulating the NEP.

Teacher transfer process to start by Aug 15: Minister

Primary and Secondary Education Minister S Suresh Kumar on Friday directed his department officials to kickstart the process of transfer of teachers by August 15. The minister said those teachers, who were subjected to compulsory and additional transfers in the preceding academic year, will be given priority this year.

UDAN airports in Karnataka bounce back despite pandemic

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

EVEN though the global aviation industry has been badly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, the smaller airports in Karnataka are showing promise. By operating smaller flights under the Civil Aviation Ministry Regional Connectivity Scheme (UDAN), Kalaburagi Airport appears to have bounced back from the crisis.

Kalaburagi Airport, began operations on November 22 last year. Airports Authority of India (AAI) director S Gnaneshwara Rao told TNIE, "Till June 30 this year, the airport has witnessed a total of 17,525 passengers. The passenger load ranges between 60% and 80% in each flight." Statistics furnished by AAI reveal that though operations had come to a standstill after the first lockdown, the airport appears to be on the right track now.

"Star Air had plans to begin operations on two different routes: Kalaburagi to Hindon (near Delhi) as well as to Tirumala. However, the pandemic put their plans on hold temporarily," Rao said.

Kapil Mohan, principal secretary, State Infrastructure Development Department, was quite optimistic of the UDAN operations in Karnataka. "There is a huge demand for air transport in emerging economic hotspots. The Infrastructure department recently took steps to link far flung districts in Karnataka," he said.

Bidar Airport started operations only recently too. A top government official claimed the airport had good patronage.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES FROM KALABURAGI AIRPORT

Month	Departures	Arrivals	Total
January	2,200	2,288	4,488
February	2,221	2,214	4,435
March	1,209	1,469	2,678
April	4	0	4
May	190	201	391
June	1,845	1,761	3,906

KIA-K'buragi flight timings

Alliance Air flights leave Kempegowda International Airport at 6.55 am on Monday and Tuesday to reach Kalaburagi at 8.45 am. In the return direction, it leaves Kalaburagi at 9.25 am to reach KIA at 11 am. From Wednesdays to Sundays, it leaves KIA at 10.15 am to reach Kalaburagi at 11.45 am. In the opposite direction, it departs at 12.25 pm to reach KIA at 1.45 pm.

Government of Karnataka
TOWN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MUNDARGI
PH:08371-262232 Email:itstaff_ulb_mundargi@yahoo.in
No:TMC/Eng.Sec/SFC.SPL/CR-319/2020-21 Date : 29-07-2020

E-PROCUREMENT NOTIFICATION

The Town Municipal Council Mundargi of Gadag District Karnataka, Invites tenders from eligible tenderers as per Rule 28 of the KTPP act, for the following work taken up under "Implementation of 2019-20 SFC Special Grant works Indent No:100831 Total Amount of works **200.00** Lakhs" The Kw-4 bid document is available online bidders can view and download the bid document from
(1) The Last Date and Time for Receipt of bids : **13-08-2020** Time 04:00 PM (2) The Tender Opening of Technical Bid date : **14-08-2020** Time 04:30 PM (3) The Tender Opening of Financial Bid date : **17-08-2020** Time 11:30 PM

Sd/- Chief Officer T.M.C. Mundargi
Sd/- Administrator T.M.C. Mundargi
DIPR/Gadag/160/MCA/2020-21

KARNATAKA FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.,
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Regd. Office: Hoige Bazar, Mangaluru - 575 001. Ph.No: (0824) 2421281/ 82
Fax: (0824) 2424560 e-mail: kfdcixe@yahoo.com Website: www.kfdcfish.com
No. KFDC/ F Jetty DPR/CONSULTANT/TENDER/2/2020-2021 Dated :29.07.2020

SHORT TERM e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

(E-Procurement portal only)

Tender invited through e-procurement portal from the consultants having experience for undertaking the responsibility of preparation of DPR with their competitive rates.
Name of the Work: "Consultancy for Preparation of DPR for the Construction of Floatting Jetty at Mangalore Fishing Harbour, Dakshina Kannada District and Malpe Fishing Harbour at Udupi District" EMD Rs.50,000/- (through e-procurement portal). Tenderers are requested to submit tenders only through e-procurement portal. Government of Karnataka: **http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** cost of document: as per e-portal norms. Tender documents can be downloaded from e-procurement portal from **29.07.2020 to 12.08.2020 upto 4.30 PM**. Last date for uploading tender is **12.08.2020 upto 4.30 PM**. Technical Bid of tender opening date: **14.08.2020 upto 11.30 AM**. Commercial Bid of tender opening date: **17.08.2020 at 3.00 PM**. Tenderers who have not registered with e-procurement portal may get registered immediately and participate the tender.
Sd/- Managing Director

UNIVERSITY OF MYSORE
Estd.-1916
Vishwavidyanilaya Karyasoudha, Crawford Hall, Mysore-570 005
(Re-accredited by NAAC with 3.47 CGPA of 4.0 Scale)
(NIRF-2020 Ranked 27 in University Category & 47 in Overall Category)
Tel.No. : 2419677/2419361 Fax: 0821-2419363/2419301
e-mail: registrar@uni-mysore.ac.in www.uni-mysore.ac.in
No.: CDC-3/169/Affln(21-22)P.N./2018-19 Date: 01.08.2020

AFFILIATION NOTIFICATION

Sub: Inviting Online application of Affiliation for the academic year 2021-22

Colleges affiliated to the University of Mysore may apply in the prescribed proforma seeking renewal of Temporary/Permanent affiliation for the existing Undergraduate and Postgraduate courses in colleges / Permanent Affiliation for existing temporary affiliations / extension of affiliation for courses/ subjects/ languages, and for the grant of additional intake of students and also for Fresh Affiliation for starting new colleges and for starting Postgraduate courses in existing colleges through online portal for the academic year 2021-22.
(website www.onlineaffiliation.karnataka.gov.in)

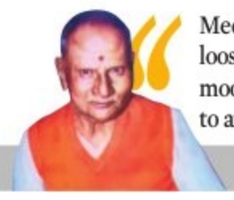
1. Only registered Educational Trusts/Institutions/Organizations should apply for seeking fresh affiliation to start new colleges with a minimum of two courses for the academic year 2021-22.
2. The Colleges which are affiliated continuously for a period not less than five years and have fulfilled all the conditions of affiliation and have attained the academic excellence and the administrative standards on an average stipulated from time to time by University and accredited by NAAC with minimum 'C' Grade are eligible to apply for permanent affiliation.
3. The Colleges which are continuously affiliated for the last five years and have got four duly qualified core faculty (at least two with Ph.D.) for each Postgraduate programme, and have got proper facilities for Research activities as laid down in the Govt. Order (1) ED 99 UNE 2002 Dated 2.11.2002 (2), ED 107 URC 2006 Dated 21.8.2006, may submit applications seeking fresh affiliation to start Postgraduate programmes during 2021-22. Such desiring colleges shall submit their online applications. In case of **MBA/MCA, grant of renewal of affiliation shall be subjected to the conditions that may be laid down by the AICTE / UGC / State Government from time to time.**
4. Only Registered Educational Trusts/Institutions/Organizations after strictly following the rules/regulations stipulated by NCTE/State Government and University may submit their applications seeking fresh affiliation for starting new B.Ed., B.P.Ed/ B.A.B.Ed/ B.Sc.B.Ed and P.G. courses M.Ed., M.P.Ed., M.Sc.Ed.
5. University Grant Commission, State Government and University Guidelines and Regulations pertaining to affiliation issued from time to time should be strictly adhered.
6. It is also brought to the notice of the Principals of the existing colleges/registered Trusts Institutions/Organizations that the application for affiliation shall be submitted only to those courses/optionals which are as per University regulations, and applications that do not follow the University regulations will not be entertained.
7. As per the Govt. order, 50% concession in affiliation fee will be given to the colleges run by the SC/ST Managements. Such organizations/Trusts should submit a certificate issued by the competent authority stating that their organization/trust belongs to SC/ST Management. Applications of those who fail to submit such certificates will not be considered for 50% concession.
8. **Online applications shall be addressed to the Registrar, University of Mysore, Mysore-570005. However, Hard copy of Online applications must be submitted to the Office of the Director, College Development Council, Moulya Bhavan, Bogadi Road, Manasagangothri, Mysore-570 006.**

Applications should be submitted on or before the dates mentioned under:
WITHOUT PENAL FEE : 01.08.2020 to 30.09.2020
WITH PENAL FEE : 01.10.2020 to 12.10.2020
APPLICATIONS SENT AFTER 13th OCTOBER 2020
WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES

Affiliation fee, Application fee and Service charges if applicable and GST 18% (SGST-9%, CGST-9%) of the Affiliation fee should be paid to the University through separate Demand Draft (D.D.) only in favor of Finance Officer, University of Mysore, Mysore. (Payment made through NEFT or challan will not be accepted under any circumstances)
Registered Trusts, Institutions/Organizations should enclose the following documents along with the application for fresh affiliation.
1) Copy of the Registration Certificate of the Education Society. **2)** Copy of the Memorandum of Articles of Association, Rules, Regulations and Bye-law. **3)** If it is a Trust, a copy of the Trust Deed and evidence for having registered the same as per rules. **4)** Latest Audit Report of the Education Society/Trust. **5)** Audit Report of the College. **6)** Annual Report of the Previous Year. **7)** Place in which proposed college is to be located and its suitability (enclose building plan etc.). **8)** In the case of SC/ST Management, a certificate issued by the competent authority should be enclosed. 9) An undertaking in Rs.100/- stamp paper duly certified by the notary should be given as in "Part-C" which is stating that the college will comply with all provisions of the Act, Statutes, Regulations, Ordinance, guidelines issued from time to time etc.
Application form, fee structure and other details may be obtained **from Dr. S. Srikantaswamy, Director and the Office of the Director, College Development Council, Moulya Bhavan, Bogadi Road, Manasagangothri, Mysore-570 006.** during office hours. (Phone No.2419306/415)
Email: cdc@uni-mysore.ac.in)
Fee Structure 2020-21 available in University website www.uni-mysore.ac.in for more details contact College Development Council, university of Mysore, Mysore regarding affiliation fee.
NOTE: 1) Details regarding affiliation fee can be seen in Notification No.AC2(S)/363/2020-21 dated 16.07.2020 (vide page No. 28 ,29, 30, 31, 32 and 33) of The Registrar, University of Mysore, Mysore. **2)** 2020-21 Affiliation Order and LIC report must be enclosed in the application. **3)** NAAC and 2(f) & 12(b) certificate must be enclosed in the application. **4)** If colleges approaches for permanent affiliation 5years Affiliation order and LIC report must be enclosed in the application.

DIPR/DD/MYS/MCA/328
Sd/- REGISTRAR

EDITORIAL



Meditation will help you to find your bonds, loosen them, untie them, and cast your moorings. When you are no longer attached to anything, you have done your share

Nisargadatta Maharaj

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

PREVENTING ANOTHER TOXIC BANK LOANS CRISIS

One has to pity Indian banks. After living in denial for years, they just completed a massive clean-up of toxic loans only to be greeted with another bout of bad luck. The pandemic and the subsequent lockdown led to a six-month debt and interest repayment holiday, which is yet to end, but the RBI's Financial Stability Report (FSR) has already bugled a warning of an incoming bad loans avalanche. It pegged FY21 gross NPAs to nearly double to 14.7% from 8.5% in FY20. For now it's only a startling estimate, but if it does come to that, then all the pain will be back on the banks' books in no time. Be that as it may, the industry, government and banks are batting for a loan restructuring scheme for stressed assets despite recent knowledge that such forbearances in the past were what caused the NPA mess in the first place. Needless to say, a blanket restructuring will wipe out all the gains and banks will be back to where they began in 2015.

Lenders want to restructure to keep loan accounts standard, but delaying NPA recognition and provisioning amounts to evergreening. Borrowers want to modify repayment terms in order to gain time until normalcy is restored, but differentiating genuine accounts from others will be both key and difficult. The government too favours such a move as key sectors like real estate and hospitality are in bad shape and in need of rescue.

How can we tide over this crisis? Some believe a case-by-case restructuring will help cut the chaff from the wheat, though it's both time-consuming and carries an element of bias. The FSR also raises the need for bank capitalisation, which the government should embark on without delay. Be it through bonds or from the market, there's literally no time to lose as only well-capitalised banks should do business. Lastly, the one-year ban on the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code should be revoked as it delays debt resolution, preventing bank lenders from finding buyers for stressed assets.

WHAT'S IN THE NAME OF A PLACE?

Residents of Sathankulam, the little town in Thoothukudi district that shot into prominence during the last two months with the alleged custodial deaths of a father-son duo, had recently petitioned authorities for a change in their town's name. The reason was that it had *Sathan* in it, which is a Tamil word for Satan. Toponymy has it that the name of the town was Thirukolundupuram or Veera Marthanda Nallur till the 17th century. But it metamorphosed into the current name after the town became a trade centre between Sri Lanka and Tamil Nadu. According to the southern Tamil dialect, *sathu* means trade of goods via bullock carts and *kulam* is market or where the trade happens. It was called Sathukulam, which transformed into Sathankulam over time, according to experts.

More recently, another such street got media attention, this time for bearing a name that brought stigma. This street, near the Srirangam railway station in Tiruchy, is called Drainage Street. Residents did wait for an ugly event to request a name change. They have been repeatedly petitioning for it. The name reflected the vicious cycle of caste-driven occupation as the street had apparently got it because the Corporation's sanitation workers used to live there. Today, most of the residents there are Dalits, and many of them have moved on to other occupations. But the stigma of their street name remains in their documents. Many senior civic officials were not even aware of the issue till this newspaper's report recently highlighted the problem. The Tiruchy Corporation may perhaps consider the plea of the residents.

Changes in place names from their distorted colonial versions to the original ones have always been a pet project of most parties in power, both in the Centre as well as in states. The TN government had, in June, proposed to rename over 1,015 cities and towns based on their original Tamil pronunciation. It, however, quickly rescinded this Government Order after a backlash and also as they had gone ahead without consulting two of the largest stakeholders in the place name paradigm: the Railways and the Department of Posts. Instead of getting into fancy name surgeries, the government may consider acting upon genuine petitions to change bizarre names and save residents the shame of living in these postal addresses.

What the former deputy prime minister made his life's mission saw sublime fruition but he could never personally pick the fruits

AYODHYA AND THE PARADOX OF ADVANI'S POLITICAL LIFE

AMIT BANDRE

SUGATA SRINIVASARAJU

Senior journalist and author

Perhaps for the first time since Narendra Modi assumed power in 2014, his political and ideological elder, Lal Krishna Advani, has been in the news for reasons other than his neglect in the BJP. Recently, he deposed via video conference before a special judge presiding over the Babri Masjid case, and answered, to be precise, 1,050 questions, to fully deny his role in the conspiracy to demolish the mosque. Instead, he told the judge that it was a political conspiracy to implicate him in the case. Besides this, Advani is also in the news because he may be one of the 200 guests attending the 'ground-breaking' ceremony for the Ram temple in Ayodhya on August 5, precisely at the place where the mosque once stood.

The paradox and irony of the moment cannot be lost. The Ram temple issue has reached closure, but the Babri Masjid case remains open, while both are related to each other. If one had seen closure the other should have ended too, and the reverse should have been true as well, but that is not how it stands. In some ways, this paradox and irony reflects Advani's own current political position. What he made his life's mission saw sublime fruition but he could never personally pick the fruits. Campaigning for the temple, willy-nilly he became a conspirator for everybody else's success in his party, except himself. One wonders which mythological character captures this complexity, and if this could be an inbuilt condition of that character or a transient curse.

It is also apparent that this paradoxical condition has haunted Advani's entire life. During testing and troubling times for Narendra Modi, in the aftermath of the Godhra riots in 2002, Advani stood by him, while Vajpayee preached 'rajdharma'. But Modi's prime ministership chose to canonise Vajpayee over Advani. Similarly, Advani went to Karachi in 2005 and tried to imitate Vajpayee's liberal ideal, but that hastened his decline rather than fan his unchallenged emergence. Until the Jinnah moment, Advani looked intact, a consistent and flawless ideologue who mapped the labyrinths of Hindutva, but the character or the curse began to unravel when he spoke of Jinnah as a 'secular' legend and an 'ambassador of Hindu-Muslim unity'. He became suspect in the eyes of his own people. He had, in a way, signed the warrant of his own demolition. Ironically, it was Vajpayee who rescued Advani then by saying everything had been "misinterpreted". Everybody thought Advani had fallen into the 'Jinnah trap' in Pakistan, but actually he had fallen into Vajpayee's Nehruvian trap. He had come to believe after the colossal electoral loss of the BJP in 2004 that he had to indeed embrace a more liberal position to become prime minister in 2009. The 'pseudo-liberal' taunt that he had invented as a hardliner was not just meant for Nehruvian liberals but for Vajpayee too; however, with the Jinnah remark, it was slapped on his forehead. The x in paradox became a limitless variable here.

By 2010, Advani had handed over more ammunition to his own people like Arun Jaitley. He had developed favourites and factions inside the BJP's elite. In July 2016, at a casual breakfast meeting in Bengaluru, Jaitley told me that there was a pre-Jinnah Advani who was a 'perfect swayamsevak' and a post-Jinnah Advani who tried to choke the party: "For everything he had come to say, 'if you don't do this, then I will not do this'. We had to take a call if we should yield to his pressure each time, and cry every day, or take a firm stand to ignore him. He threw up a dilemma during the black money yatra in 2011, but we did not yield. He still did the yatra. Similarly, he said I won't come to the Goa meet in 2013 if Modi is announced as prime minister. We still went ahead. He then said, I will retire from politics as a Speaker of Lok Sabha. We did not accept it because it would cause instability. Finally, he said, make me chairman of ICCR, like Karan Singh. That too did not happen," Jaitley had recounted.

> Campaigning for the temple, willy-nilly he became a conspirator for everybody else's success in his party, except himself.... It is also apparent that this paradoxical condition has haunted Advani's entire life. In the aftermath of the 2002 riots, Advani stood by Modi, while Vajpayee preached 'rajdharma'. But Modi's prime ministership chose to canonise Vajpayee over Advani

However, the worst that hit Advani did not happen in Karachi, Delhi or Goa, it came from Bengaluru, when a little-known Karnataka MLC of Rajasthani origin, Lahar Singh Siroya, wrote a stinging 1,200-word open letter in May 2013. It questioned Advani's delusions and moral dualities. Though the letter had a Karnataka context, it was clearly intended for a national audience: "Sometimes Advaniji you end up thinking that you are the party and make mistakes that are inexplicable," the letter read. It asked him not to pontificate and be self-righteous on corruption because he had never bothered to check how rallies were organised and electoral numbers were mustered to keep his prime ministerial ambition intact. Advani's family too was dragged in, and it must have embarrassed him no end. He never reacted to it publicly though.

This letter appeared a few months before Modi became a consensus in the BJP for prime minister. In a party like the BJP, a letter like this would not have found wide circulation had a powerful group not promoted it. It was in fact splashed all over in the national media. The Jinnah remark had demolished Advani's ideological self and this tackled the rest of his personality. One wonders if Modi would have found space had Advani remained a Hindutva hardliner? That's another question for history's What If?

(sugataraju@gmail.com)

WHAT INDIA SHOULD DO TO COMPETE WITH CHINA

AMAR PATNAIK

Rajya Sabha MP and former CAG bureaucrat with a PhD in management

JAYANTA KUMAR MOHANTY

Delhi-based Business and Strategy Consultant & an ex-CEO of a US company

China will never stop bullying its neighbours. Military escalation and de-escalation across borders will continue. India needs to reduce the power asymmetry with its neighbour and build its muscles so that it can flex them from a position of strength. This asymmetry exists across four areas—economic, diplomatic, political and military. Therefore, a holistic strategy is necessary to make India stronger and help it respond more effectively to any such future threat to the country.

Economic strength: India can build economic clout through better business planning. The aversion to large-scale industries was a mistake. To make India an economic power, we need to do mass production. It will help achieve cost leadership and beat China's pricing. Around 80% of air conditioners, 70% of mobile sets, 60% of shoes, 74% of solar cells and 60% of premium luxury branded products in the world are now being manufactured in China. Will our MSMEs be able to scale up production and match China in pricing and quality in the global market? Maybe yes, but we need to build clusters for that—and a one district one product strategy where MSMEs can share technology, expertise and labour, and bring efficiency for mass production. However, the best solution would be mass production by big companies, so that India can enjoy cost leadership in international markets and replace China as the export partner of many countries.

India can identify 10,000 companies with a ₹100 crore+ turnover, and have the vision to grow big and dominate the international market with large-scale production. The government can help them in exports and business by signing trade agreements with friendly countries through India's diplomatic and strategic initiatives. The government needs to provide them loans at an interest rate of 3-4% to allow them to invest in technology and equipment to scale up their production.

Before that, India needs to address some ground issues, such as skilling of workers, making power available at ₹3 per unit to industries (that's the rate in China), building wide and efficient roads, rails, ports and airports to reduce transportation costs, and changing labour laws, etc.

Diplomatic strength: This is one area where it is not understood why India should have an asymmetry in power. India needs to develop business skills in its diplomats. We need to skill and reskill them to focus and achieve both strategic and business goals from the relations with the countries they are stationed in. With Covid-19, we have an opportunity to improve on the business partnership matrix and trade relations to achieve phenomenal business growth year on year, starting from 2021.

The "train the trainer" program conducted for business leaders from corporates and senior diplomats with business acumen can help sharpen their business skills, which are necessary for partnership development and signing business contracts. The External Affairs Ministry needs to assess the present skill gaps and develop training programmes accordingly.

> Power asymmetry with China exists across four areas—economic, diplomatic, political and military. Therefore, a holistic strategy is necessary to make India stronger and respond more effectively to any such future threat to the country

Secondly, in a world in which the US and China are more confrontational and competitive now, India needs to decide which bloc it should go with. The US has been interested in building better and stronger relationships with India as a counter balance to China, particularly in the Asian continent. Now, FVEY countries (Five eyes Alliance—the US, UK, Australia, New Zealand and Canada) are reorienting their policies towards China as a consequence of the pandemic and looking towards India to play a dominant role in the Indo-Pacific region. It's India that needs to respond to these global calls and take proactive measures to converge politically, strategically and economically with every country for its own benefits. And relationships with our immediate neighbours are important to maintain peace in the region.

Then, we need to create a task force of MPs across political parties to engage various countries for trade and business partnerships—setting clear goals to achieve business/trade revenue growth—and aligning them to this goal of making India a super economic power. When they visit another country, they can take 10 Indian businessmen along with them, so they can explore business opportunities and sign deals there.

Political strength: Democracy continues to remain our strength as it gives us a leverage in our engagements with other larger and more powerful democracies of the world as they celebrate individual choice and freedom unlike communist China. While there are counter arguments to the above assertion citing delayed decision-making due to time wasted in arriving at a consensus or a majority, it has been proved that democracies are able to deliver citizens their rights much better than a communist set-up. We need to strengthen our democracy by making it more mature, erudite and less raucous.

Military strength: India needs to get into strategic partnerships with advanced defence powers like the US, Russia, France, the UK, Israel, Japan, and most of the China-wary countries in the Indo-Pacific region such as South Korea, Vietnam, Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia, Taiwan and the Philippines. Then we need to build our indigenous capabilities and military competence with investments in defence technologies and production. For that, we need to increase our defence budget manifold.

This is the time for India to have a solid long-term strategic plan to grow stronger—economically, technologically, militarily and politically—without being overly aggressive in challenging China over a longer period of time and a larger geopolitical space.

(amar_patnaik@yahoo.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Making education relevant

This is with reference to *Positives outweigh negatives in New Education Policy* (July 31). The approval of the new policy is commendable. Emphasis has been given to a holistic education. The new policy, which comes after 34 years, will go a long way in making education relevant to the current times.

C Ghanshyam, Visakhapatnam

Vocational subjects

The NEP has rightly decided to discontinue M Phil, which has been a 'neither here, nor there' degree. This will reduce duplication of work. Greater emphasis has been given to raising employment potential by introducing vocational subjects at the school level. The only downside is the hue and cry that will be raised by some state governments.

Parthasarathy Mandadi, Tirupati

Need states' concurrence

The NEP has an array of positive points that will surely brighten the future of Indian education. However, it is a time-consuming process as the chairman of the expert committee, Dr Kasturirangan, said that the changes mentioned in the policy can only be implemented with the concurrence of the states.

Ravi Mannethu, Pullad

Medium of instruction

The NEP is a welcome step in the right direction. Nevertheless, the Budget allocation for the education sector is not nearly enough to reach the goals put forward by the policy. Having the medium of instruction as the local language upto Class V also seems unnecessary. How will students cope with the shift to English after that?

R Sriramprasad, Bengaluru

Spending not enough

While the NEP sounds good, there seem to be some apprehensions, like the local language being the medium of instruction. Education will also become more expensive as the Budget allocations may not be enough to cover the costs of implementing these ambitious reforms.

K Nehru Patnaik, Visakhapatnam

Changes in global politics

This is with reference to *Choosing the middle path for 'middle power'* (July 31). It is apparent that the idea of non-alignment has been losing significance with the changes in geopolitical dynamics and deteriorating ideologies. Nations are increasingly becoming nationalistic, ignoring greater causes like humanitarianism, the climate crisis, etc.

A M Chakravarty, Hyderabad

Blot on the forces

That four naval officers and 14 others were booked by the CBI for a ₹6.76 crore fraud is shocking. It is a blot on the forces, considering that its officers are some of the most well-paid government servants in the country. The greed for money is the root of all evil, but people should remember that on being caught, they will lose much more than they had bargained for.

Elizabeth Koshy, Pathanamthitta

Empowering Muslim women

It is heartening to hear that the law criminalising triple talaq has worked as a deterrent. It has managed to rein in the practice and bring down the number of cases substantially. This development will empower Muslim women and help protect their marriages.

C G Kuriakose, Kothamangalam

PDP demand untenable

The demand of Firdous Tak, a senior leader of the People's Democratic Party (PDP), for the restoration of Articles 370 and 35A for J&K is untenable. Kashmir is equal to any other state or Union Territory in the country. Granting it special privileges will be discriminatory to other states and hence not ideal for a healthy federal system.

Sudhakar Cherukunnu, Kannur

TN takes right decision

Tamil Nadu's decision to extend the lockdown for the month of August, this time with further relaxations, is a step in the right direction. This way, the state will progress further in the containment of the virus. This can be achieved much faster with the cooperation of all the citizens.

N Visveswaran, Chennai

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Chairman of the Board: **Manoj Kumar Sonthalia** Editor: **G S Vasu**

Resident Editor (Karnataka) : **Santwana Bhattacharya*** Published by **R K Jhunjhunwala** on behalf of Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited, at No. 1, Queen's Road, Bengaluru - 560 001 and printed by him at Express Press, Plot No. 2A, Bommasandra Industrial Area, 4th Phase, Survey No. 46, Part Yarandahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk. Bengaluru - 560 099. **Bengaluru.** Vol. 56, No. 183 RNI Reg. No. 3457/1960. Phone: 080-22866893, Fax: 080-22866617. * Responsible for selection of News under the PRB Act. **Copyright:** Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner, electronic or otherwise, in whole or in part, without prior written permission is prohibited.

TWEETS OF THE DAY

Asaduddin Owaisi @asadowaisi
My suggestion is that every Congress office in India should donate sand for the construction of Mandir in Ayodhya

Omar Abdullah @OmarAbdullah
Good to hear that Sajad Lone has been released from illegal house arrest. I hope others...will also be released without delay

Piyush Goyal @PiyushGoyal
Engineering Marvel: Railways commissions longest bridge in the South Western Zone on Bhima river.

Raj police not allowed to enter Haryana hotels

A team of the Rajasthan Police's Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) which went to service notices to two rebel Congress MLAs of the former deputy CM Sachin Pilot camp in a corruption case at a five-star resort in Haryana's Manesar was not allowed to enter the premises. Sources said the team, headed by DSP Saleh Mohammad, went to all three five-star resorts in Manesar and Nuh where the legislators are said to be staying along with the 16 other rebel MLAs. While two resort managements gave the team in writing that the MLAs were not staying at their facilities, the third resort management told the team that it was closed.

Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot and senior Congress leader Shanti Dhariwal flash victory sign at Jaipur airport on Friday | PTI

'Bored' MLAs shifted to Jaisalmer

Move came a day after Rajasthan CM alleged that the 'rates' for buying MLAs were rising

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

IN a fresh twist to the Rajasthan political drama, pro-Gehlot MLAs were shifted to Jaisalmer from Jaipur on Friday afternoon. After a meeting of the Congress Legislature Party at the Fairmont Hotel, the MLAs were flown to Jaisalmer by a special flight.

Sources said the MLAs will stay at two luxury hotels in Jaisalmer till they return a day before the Assembly session begins on August 14.

Though there was no official word yet on why the MLAs were shifted, it came a day after CM Ashok Gehlot alleged that the 'rates' for buying MLAs were rising after the Assembly session was fixed for Aug 14.

Ever since the revolt by Sachin Pilot and 18 MLAs supporting him, Gehlot has claimed that the BJP is indulging in horse-trading to topple the Rajasthan government. Sources said the MLAs were getting "tired and bored" at the Jaipur hotel where they have been corralled for over a fortnight. In an interaction with the media at Jaipur, Gehlot said horse-trading efforts have been intensified by the BJP and Pilot camp. "Our MLAs and their families are facing all kinds of pressure and threats on phones. To save democracy, we are moving them."

Gehlot also insisted that governance would not suffer. "I along with most ministers will be staying in Jaipur so that there is no compromise on governance. I am holding video-conferences on the corona crisis and we have also handled law and order in the state. It is equally important to save our government because the Centre, the Home Ministry itself, is trying to bring down our government," he said.

When the MLAs were taken by buses to the Jaipur airport around noon, they were seen without wearing masks. Revenue Minister Harish Choudhry, while leaving for Jaisalmer, remarked, "The entire state is like our home... The BJP conspiracy has failed."

The shifting of MLAs gave the BJP a chance to poke fun at the Congress. Rajasthan BJP chief Satish Poonia tweeted: "Ahead of Jaisalmer is Pakistan. And on its other side is Gujarat (a BJP-ruled state). So where do you want to go? The CM should set his MLAs free."

Meanwhile, Sachin Pilot and his 18 MLAs continue to be elusive. A team of the state's Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) that went to the Manesar hotel (near Gurugram in Haryana), from where the MLAs had disappeared a fortnight back, could not find the two MLAs the sleuths were looking for. The two -- Bhanwar Lal Sharma and Vishwendra Singh -- are allegedly involved in the 'audio tape' case.

Cong chief whip moves SC against HC order

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

RAJASTHAN Congress chief whip Mahesh Joshi on Friday moved the Supreme Court against the high court's July 24 order asking the Assembly speaker to defer disqualification proceeding against sacked deputy chief minister Sachin Pilot and 18 other rebel MLAs.

Joshi has moved the top court two days after Assembly Speaker CP Joshi filed the appeal against the July 24 Rajasthan High Court order.

The plea said the high court order is ex-facie unconstitutional, illegal and in the teeth of the law laid down by this court in the 1992 verdict in the case of Kihoto Hollohon.

The 1992 judgment had held that the Speaker has the authority to decide the disqualification proceedings and judicial intervention in the process is not permissible.

The order which constricts and restricts the jurisdiction of the Speaker to even adjudicate on the disqualification petitions is plainly illegal, unconstitutional and in the teeth of settled principles of law laid down by this court," his petition stated.

Joshi On July 29 had moved the court challenging the July 24 order of the high court which had directed maintenance of status quo on the disqualification notice issued to 19 dissident Congress MLAs, including Pilot.

In his petition, Joshi has sought a stay on the high court's order contending that it was ex-facie unconstitutional and was a direct intrusion into the domain exclusively reserved for the Speaker under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution.

Pak or Guj, asks BJP

Rajasthan BJP chief Satish Poonia tweeted: "Ahead of Jaisalmer is Pakistan. And on its other side is Gujarat (a BJP-ruled state). So where do you want to go? The CM should set his MLAs free."

> **Our MLAs and their families are facing all kinds of pressure and threats on phones. To save democracy, we are moving them**
>
> Ashok Gehlot, Rajasthan CM

5 states yet to pay salaries of doctors, Centre tells SC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Centre on Friday told the Supreme Court five states, including Delhi, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tripura and Karnataka, have not complied with the court's order to pay salaries to doctors and healthcare workers (HCWs) who are at the frontlines of the battle against the coronavirus.

A bench headed by Justice Ashok Bhushan, which was hearing a doctor's petition on difficulties faced by HCWs, ordered the states to release salaries to its HCWs within a week and fixed August 10 to hear the matter. According to the government's affidavit, the five non-compliant states were issued three reminders on the top court's order.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta also told the bench that these states have failed to comply with its orders on timely payment of salaries.

However, the court reminded the solicitor that the central government was not powerless in such a situation.

"You are not helpless. You have to see that the order is followed. You have the power under the DM Act," the bench told Mehta. In a separate application by United Residents and Doctors' Association, the court was also informed that the management of some hospitals and institutes are treating mandatory quarantine of doctors as a period of leave.

On deduction of salaries, the court noted: "How can their salaries be cut for going on compulsory quarantine after the duty?"

Mehta accepted this point, said it needed no further argument and promised to look into it. "We will see to it that it (quarantine period) is included as part of the duty."

Mehta acknowledged that hospitals cannot be allowed to deduct salaries of doctors for their period in quarantine and assured to get back with instructions on this.

The SC had on June 17 ordered states to pay salaries to all HCWs and said non-compliance will be treated as a criminal offence under the Disaster Management Act.

A health worker collects sample from a person for Covid-19 test in Thane | PTI

Union Ministers Smriti Irani, Ravi Shankar Prasad and Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi during a virtual conference on Muslim Women Rights Day | SHEKHAR YADAV

Triple Talaq Bill Modi govt's 'Eidi': Smriti Irani

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THREE ministers of the Modi government on Friday launched a scathing attack on the Congress at an event marking the first anniversary of the law against triple talaq, saying the legislation could have been enacted in the 1980s, but for the alleged vote bank politics of the grand old party.

On the occasion, Union Minority Affairs Minister Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, Union Women and Child Development Minister Smriti Irani and Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad interacted with Muslim women from across the country via a video link, hailing the abolishment of instant triple talaq and criminalisation of the practice.

While Naqvi said the law was achieving the intended goals and triple talaq cases have come down drastically after the enactment of the law, Irani said the law was Modi government's "Eidi" and "Rakhi gift" for Muslim women.

Incidentally, the event comes a day before Eid-al-Adha and three days before Raksha Bandhan.

In an apparent dig at the Congress, Naqvi said triple talaq was "neither Islamic, nor legal", but despite that, the social evil was given "political patronage" by "merchants of vote bank". Shankar said the government is committed to political empowerment and not "political exploitation".

> **Triple talaq was neither Islamic, nor legal, but despite that, the social evil was given political patronage by merchants of vote bank**
>
> Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, Union minister

'SWADESHI'

ITBP becomes first CAPF to get khadi items

NEW DELHI: The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) on Friday became the first Central Armed Police Force to do a full-fledged procurement of a variety of 'swadeshi' and 'khadi' goods for around 10 lakh personnel of the CAPF.

The border force inked a deal with the KVIC and it will procure 1,200 quintals of mustard oil from the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) with "a total financial implication of over Rs 1.73 crore".

"A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the two sides on Friday. The aim is to increasingly procure 'swadeshi' or indigenously made products," he said.

The MoU was signed by KVIC chairman Vinai Kumar Saxena and officials of the ITBP procurement wing in Delhi. The ITBP, which guards the 3,488-km-long Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China, is the first among the paramilitary or CAPFs to ink such a deal. The CRPF, CISF, BSF and SSB are the other CAPFs.

In May, Home Minister Amit Shah had announced that the CAPF canteens will only sell indigenous products from June. "Approximately 2.5 lakh durries will be procured by ITBP at a cost of ₹17 crore. The force is the nodal agency for procurement of durries for all CAPFs," ITBP spokesperson said. *ENS*

EXPRESS READ

BIS certification must for 2-wheeler helmets

New Delhi: The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has issued a draft notification to bring two-wheeler helmets under compulsory certification under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act. "The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, in consultation of Bureau of Indian Standards proposes to issue protective helmet for two-wheeler riders (Quality Control) Standards Act to bring protective helmets for two wheelers rider under compulsory certification under Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 206," the notification stated. Suggestions have been invited for the same and can be given in 30 days.

Poverty-free, corruption-free India by 2022: Modi govt's vision document

NEW DELHI: The Centre has prepared a vision document for creating a new corruption and poverty-free India by December 2022 — the 75th year of independence.

"India has succeeded in finding a solution to the problem of poverty. The Centre is focusing on the development of all the sectors, including electricity, drinking water, health and education, besides others. Everyone will have a home by 2022," the Ministry of Rural Development said in a statement.

In a document, Rural Development Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said the ministry is dedicated to meet the goals set as part of the New India 2022 mission. "Importance will be given to increasing employment," he said. "The focus will be on increasing employment by developing rural basic resources and women empowerment. Training and capacity development programs will be conducted in the villages," the vision document stated.

According to the document, the main aims include identification of basic problems in villages and then increasing the facilities to improve the living conditions of people in rural areas.

"Training and capacity development programmes will also be undertaken to meet the plans," the ministry said. The government is working on several targets like skill development, bank credit, water conservation, health and nutrition, electricity, housing, ODF, waste disposal, road, internet among others. *ENS*

SELF-RELIANT INDIA

PMO carefully crafted 'Atmanirbhar' campaign to counter China: Official

MANISH ANAND @ New Delhi

UNLIKE the UPA's legacy Asean-India Free Trade Agreement (FTA), the Modi government's 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' campaign was carefully crafted by the PMO for both countering China and closing loopholes with Asean partners, a government official said.

Top officials in the government said the Asean-India FTA was seen promoting imports at the cost of domestic productions, which could have created local jobs. With restrictive list emerging as the favoured tool within the government to deal with imports from China and South-East Asian countries, the officials stated that consumers' interest would remain protected by ensuring imports of immediate requirements of critical inputs in manufacture by taking domestic industry on-board.

Former NITI Aayog vice-chairman Arvind Panagaria and many other economic experts have singled out the Modi government's Atmanirbhar campaign, contending India is going back to the failed pre-1991 policy era of import substitutions.

The post-Covid and post-Galwan Valley policy shifts have been carefully crafted during several meetings in the PMO in the past few months in consultations with industry leaders, they asserted.

> **The Covid-19 and the Galwan Valley incident pushed the government for policy tweaks. The India-Asean FTA is a UPA-era legacy, which has been seen promoting import at the cost of domestic manufacture with zero or reduced duties**
>
> Senior official, NITI Aayog

"India isn't leaving the global supply chain, for the critics to remind of the pre-1991 import substitution policy era. The Covid-19 and Chinese misadventure in the Galwan Valley pushed the government for policy tweaks. The India-Asean FTA is a UPA era legacy, which has been seen promoting import at the cost of domestic manufacture with zero or reduced duties. Increasing duty isn't an option, and the government will bank on restrictive list as done in the case of the imports of TV sets," said a senior official of the NITI Aayog, adding that China and South-East Asian countries have taken the 36 per cent (2019-20), down from 50 per cent in 2018-19, slice of the ₹15,000 crore TV industry in India.

The official, who requested not to be named, said the Centre isn't taking unilateral decision in rolling out policy measures.

Rafale jets no match for China's J-20: Global Times

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

CHINA on Friday said the much-talked-about Rafale fighter jets are no match for its J-20 stealth fighter jets, days after the first batch of five French-made warplanes landed in Ambala.

Quoting experts, an article in the Chinese Communist Party mouthpiece *The Global Times* said: "India has recently received delivery of five Rafale fighter jets, with a former Indian air chief marshal boasting that the French-made warplanes' capability is superior to China's J-20 stealth fighter jet. Chinese experts said that the Rafale is only a third-plus generation fighter jet, and does not stand much of a chance against a stealth, fourth-generation one like the J-20."

Defence expert dismisses China's claims as bogey

"The very shape of J-20 reveals that it's more like any traditional aircraft. It is an unproven platform, too. Rafale (in pic) is a proven platform, says Air Commodore (Retd) Prashant Dixit

Saying that the Rafale is superior to the Su-30 MKI in some aspects, the article goes on to say that the acquisition does not yield a significant qualitative change.

"In some combat performance areas, the Rafale is superior to the Su-30 MKI fighter jets, which are in service in the Indian Air Force in large batches, but it is only about one-fourth of a generation more advanced and does not yield a significant qualitative change," it said.

Air Commodore (Retd) Prashant Dixit dismissed Beijing's claims as a bogey.

"The very shape of J-20 reveals that it's more like any traditional aircraft. It is an unproven platform, too. Rafale is a proven platform and with the kind of weapons and missile it is packed with will be an aircraft which will deter any enemy," he said.

'Our financial systems designed in a wrong way'

NEW DELHI: Nobel laureate and founder of the Grameen Bank Muhammad Yunus on Friday said the Covid-19 pandemic has revealed that our financial systems are designed in a wrong way, and it has given the world a chance to reflect and take "outrageously" bold decisions to create a new order where there is no global warming, no wealth concentration and no unemployment.

In a conversation with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, Yunus said the Covid-19 has given people a chance to reflect on how big and bold decisions can be taken for making a new beginning towards a system that will create space for the informal and rural economy and all sections of society.

"The Covid-19 has given us a window of thinking and we have a choice, whether we go to that terrible world which is going to destroy itself anyway or we go someplace else and build a new world where there will be no global warming, no wealth concentration, no unemployment," said Yunus. *ENS*

LALU TO BE SHIFTED

Fodder scam convict RJD chief Lalu Prasad, currently admitted to RIMS in Ranchi, will be shifted to the official residence of RIMS Director in a precautionary measure in the face of soaring Covid-19 cases in Jharkhand.

718 TOUTS ARRESTED SINCE MAY BY RPF

Ahmedabad	37	26	Mumbai	31	25
Bhopal	30	26	Panaji	28	24
Jaipur	36	26	Patna	34	28
Amritsar	34	27	Lucknow	33	26
Chennai	39	27	Port Blair	28	24
Kolkata	36	28	Imphal	31	23
Srinagar	32	18	Chandigarh	33	27

MEHBOOBA'S PSA DETENTION EXTENDED

But, the J&K government releases Peoples Conference chairman Sajjad Gani Lone ahead of Eid-ul-Adha

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

THE Jammu and Kashmir government on Friday extended PDP chief **Mehbooba Mufti**'s detention under the stringent Public Safety Act by another three months but released Peoples Conference chairman Sajjad Gani Lone ahead of Eid-ul-Adha.

Mehbooba, who is detained since the scrapping of Article 370 on August 5 last year, was initially lodged at Cheshma Shahi hut and then shifted to a government accommodation at Maulana Azad Road. On April 7, she was shifted to her residence at Gupkar Road, Srinagar. Mehbooba's PSA detention was to expire on August 5.

The former chief minister is the only mainstream leader still under PSA detention. Former CMs Farooq and Omar Abdullah were also booked under the Act, but their detention was revoked over the months.

"The petition challenging her unlawful detention has been pending in SC since 26th February. Where does one seek justice?" Mehbooba's daughter Iltija Mufti tweeted.

Under the PSA, an accused can be detained without trial for six months and the detention can be extended up to two years.

Senior PDP leader Firdous Tak said the detention order speaks a lot about the situation on the ground as well as the approach of the Centre towards Jammu and Kashmir.

"People who claim themselves to be champions of democracy and talk about political process actually want parroting of their nefarious plans. No measures of suppression and oppression will curb the genuine aspiration but instead will strengthen our stand and commitment," the former MLC claimed.

On the other hand, the government lifted restrictions on Lone and set him free.

The separatist-turned-mainstream politician was under house detention at his government accommodation at Church Lane, Srinagar since February 5.

"Finally 5 days short of a year I have been officially informed that I am a free man. So much has changed. So have I. Jail was not a new experience. Earlier ones were harsh with usual doses of physical torture. But this was psychologically draining. Much to share hopefully soon (sic)," he tweeted, after his release

Domicile law, certificates in Kashmir are a fraud: Soz

SENIOR Congress leader and former Union Minister **Saif-ud-Din Soz** is not a free man despite the Jammu and Kashmir government telling the Supreme Court that he was never under detention. A J&K government spokesman has also tweeted that Soz was not under arrest or detention. In an exclusive interview to **Fayaz Wani**, Soz talks about Art 370 and restoration of statehood to J&K.

Are you a free man?
I have been under house detention since August 5 last year. The government is telling lies. I am barred from venturing out from my residence.

The government released a video saying you are a free man?
It is a deceit and nothing else. I had gone with the permission of police in the morning to see my ailing sister. I was accompanied by the policemen. The policemen on the instructions of their superiors might have made a video and released it. After I returned to my residence, I tried to move out at around 12.35pm to visit my daughter but was not allowed to venture out. I am under detention. There is no written order and all the instructions are being issued verbally.

Are you considering a legal recourse?
The Supreme Court which accepted the government statement that I am a free man should look into the facts. I am discussing legal issues with my lawyers.

How do you see August 5, 2019 developments when the Centre scrapped J&K's special status and split the state into two Union Territories?
Kashmiris would never accept abrogation of Article 370. It was the basis of our accession with the Indian Union. The most important condition of the accession was retention of internal autonomy as enshrined in Article 370.

Do you support restoration of Article 370?
The people of Kashmir want restoration of Article 370 or granting of a substitute for that with constitutional guarantees.

The Centre has introduced the domicile law and now domicile certificates are being issued. How do you see it?
It is a fraud... as it is not done by an elected government. They may run day-to-day administration, but they can't take decisions of very wider implications. It is not acceptable to us.

SUSHANT

Maha caveat in SC, ED files case against Rhea

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mumbai/Patna

THE Sushant Singh Rajput death case is turning out to be a battle between the Maharashtra and the Bihar governments. The Uddhav Thackeray government on Friday filed a caveat in the Supreme Court seeking to be heard before any order is passed on the plea of actress Rhea Chakraborty, accused by Sushant's family of driving him to suicide.

Rhea had moved the apex court challenging the jurisdiction of the Patna police in lodging an FIR in connection with the actor's suicide and seeking the transfer of the case to Mumbai. The Maharashtra government's move came a day after Sushant's family and the Bihar government filed separate caveats iseeking to be heard before passing any order on Rhea's plea.

Trouble has mounted for Rhea, who was Sushant's girlfriend, after the Enforcement Directorate filed a money-laundering case against her and her family members in connection with transfer of ₹15 crore from Sushant's bank account. The ED booked her on the basis of the FIR filed by Bihar Police.

As demand for CBI probe intensifies in the case, Rhea released a video message saying truth shall prevail.

"I have immense faith in God and the judiciary. I believe that I will get justice. Even though a lot of horrible things are being said about me on the electronic media, I refrain from commenting as the matter is sub judice. *Satyamev Jayate* — truth shall prevail."

> They (cops) should be given adequate time for probe. If after giving enough time, they are unable to move ahead, then anyone can demand anything
> Uddhav Thackeray, Maharashtra CM

Meanwhile, BJP leaders stepped up pressure to hand over the case to CBI, with Bihar's Deputy CM Sushil Kumar Modi alleging that the Mumbai police was creating obstacle in the way of a fair investigation.

Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray urged fans of Sushant that they should not succumb to the Opposition's politics. "They (Mumbai Police) should be given adequate time the investigation. If after giving enough time, the police are unable to move ahead, then anyone can demand anything," he said.

STATE OF UNLOCK

With the Unlock 3.0 coming into force from today, and the Centre already having unveiled its guidelines a few days ago, here's what various states are planning regarding easing or continuing restrictions

	Night curfew	Gyms	Yoga centres
Assam	To continue	To be closed	To be closed
Bihar	To continue	To remain shut	To remain shut
West Bengal	To continue	To remain shut	To remain shut
Uttar Pradesh	Removed	To reopen*	To reopen*
Jharkhand	To continue	To remain closed	To remain closed
Punjab	To continue	To reopen*	To reopen*
Maharashtra	To continue	To remain closed	To remain closed
Rajasthan	Removed	To reopen*	To reopen*

* FROM AUG 5

- In Bihar, the lockdown restrictions have been extended till Aug 16
- Jharkhand has also extended lockdown curbs outside containment zones till Aug 31
- Weekend lockdown to continue in UP; containment zones will have strict lockdown till Aug 31
- Assam's Health Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said the state would have a limited application of Unlock 3 guidelines and favours restrictions till Aug 15
- Punjab has allowed holding of all kinds of exams, admissions, entrance tests conducted by universities, boards, Public Service Commissions and other institutions

Embassies to get special *laddoos* from Ram Temple trust

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

THE Ram Janmbhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust has made special arrangements to distribute *laddoos* at all embassies in Delhi apart from Ayodhya on the *Bhoomi Pujan* ceremony.

According to Trust insiders, orders have been placed for 4 lakh packets of *laddoos*.

In various *Mutths* and *Akhadas* of Ayodhya, sweets and laddoos are being prepared at war footing. They will be distributed among the Ayodhya residents after *Bhoomi Pujan*. As many as 51 lakh *laddoos* are being prepared in the temple town.

Preparations are in full swing to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the foundation stone laying ceremony of the grand Ram Temple in Ayodhya on August 5.

UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is likely to visit the temple town on Sunday to take stock of the arrangements. During a meeting with seers, he has appealed to the people to mark the occasion as Diwali by lighting earthen lamps as it was the pleasant culmination of a 500-year struggle.

Residents of the city have been asked to light up earthen lamps at their homes on the eve of the foundation stone laying ceremony. To make the celebration merrier, the tourism department is also participating in the preparations. As per an estimation, around 3 lakh *diyas* will illuminate the temple town on August 4 and 5.

The occasion will be live-streamed on Doordarshan so that the devotees across the globe can attend the grand religious event.

Bhajans and other religious activities will also be performed as the rituals for the even on August 5 would commence on Monday August 3. Seers will also participate in 108 *Hanuman Chalisa* recitations in the temples.

Laddoos are being prepared on a war footing in Ayodhya for Bhoomi Pujan | PTI

Tribals angry with VHP programme

RANCHI : The Tribal community in Jharkhand has alleged that the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) was conspiring to brand tribals as Hindus in connivance with BJP leaders.

Various tribal groups have decided to launch a nationwide campaign against VHP and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh to create an awareness against the "conspiracy" hatched by the two right-wing outfits.

The VHP is carrying out a drive to collecting soil and sacred water from 2100 religious places in Jharkhand. "This is a direct attack on identity of tribals and their culture. We have called a nationwide conference in February next year during which a campaign will be launched against VHP, RSS and other outfits," said academician Karma Oraon. *ENS*

EXPRESS READ

Kanpur encounter: SIT seeks more time to probe

Lucknow: The Special Investigation Team probing the Kanpur massacre of eight police men sought some more time to submit its final report. The panel, which was given 20 days to probe into the ambush led by dreaded gangster Vikas Dubey, was supposed to submit its report on Friday. As per the key sources in police department, the SIT probe is progressing slowly as many departments are yet to file their inputs.

Sulking Mukul Roy gets chance for airing unease to BJP brass in Delhi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

RESPONDING to a call from the party high-command, senior BJP leader Mukul Roy, who skipped week-long meetings with the national leadership last week following his discontent with the party's Assembly seat-wise projections, will leave for Delhi within a day or two to meet top BJP brass.

Roy is likely to meet Union Home Minister Amit Shah and party's national president JP Nadda. The summoning appears to be significant in the wake of the recent rift in the party's Bengal functionaries that surfaced during the week-long meetings with the national leadership.

After Roy abruptly left Delhi last week, BJP MP Arjun Singh had alleged that 'efficient' workers, especially who defected from TMC, were not being allowed to work freely by a section of the leaders in the party hierarchy. Singh also pointed out the dominance of state president Dilip Ghosh in the party's day-to-day affairs.

"The return of Biplab Mitra and his brother Prashanta to the ruling party on Friday is reflecting the veracity of Singh's allegation. If more turncoats return to their parent party, it will not only create more embarrassment but also widen the crack in our organisation which might lead to a poor show in the Assembly elections," said a BJP leader.

On many occasions, turncoats have alleged that they were not being informed and allowed to participate in BJP's regular activities. "They alleged they were not even welcomed at the local party offices. These turncoats were active when they were in the TMC. If we force them to sit idle, it will be difficult to keep them with the party," the leader said.

Punjab: 21 die of illicit liquor, magisterial probe on

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

AT least 21 people have died while another person is critical after allegedly consuming spurious liquor in Amritsar, Batala and Tarn Taran districts of Punjab over the past two days.

The Punjab Government has ordered a magisterial inquiry by the divisional commissioner in Jalandhar into the suspicious deaths.

Punjab DGP Dinkar Gupta said the first five deaths were reported from Mucchal and Tangra villages in Amritsar on July 29 night. On July 30, two more persons died in suspicious circumstances in Mucchal, while one person was hospitalised in a critical condition and later succumbed at the Sri Guru Ramdas Hospital.

Later, two more deaths were from reported from the same village while another two reportedly died in Batala city.

On Friday, five more persons died in Batala, taking the toll in the city to seven, while one person has been referred to the Civil Hospital in a critical condition. Four more similarly suspicious deaths were reported from Tarn Taran.

The police arrested a woman and registered a case under section 304 (culpable homicide) of the IPC and Excise Act.

Assam gets four 'Ro-Pax' vessels

Assam will get four new state-of-the-art "Ro-Pax" vessels, built by Cochin Shipyard Ltd. Industries Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary said the government is deeply concerned about the people of river island Majuli and other parts of the state who are suffering due to the non-operation of Ro-Ro vessels. "The vessels will be operated on the waterways from Dhubri to Sadiya," he said. The new Ro-Pax vessels have a capacity of 200 passengers each and along with this load, they can carry two trucks and four cars.

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR
Our correspondent in Guwahati
prasantamazumdar@newindianexpress.com

GUWAHATI DIARY

NCC cadets learn entrepreneurship skills

The first-ever "Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme" in online mode is being conducted by the Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE), Guwahati for NCC cadets of the Northeast from July 27. Altogether 31 cadets are taking part in the 15-day programme. The programme was conceptualised by an expert team of the IIE which is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. According to defence spokesman Lt Col P Khongsai, the programme is aimed at introducing NCC cadets to the qualities needed to be a successful entrepreneur, identify business opportunities, provide scope to interact with successful entrepreneurs and understand the support available from government agencies for budding entrepreneurs.

Robots to clean manholes in city

For the first time in the Northeast, authorities are deploying robots to clean manholes in Guwahati. "BANDICOOT", a manhole-cleaning robot, was flagged off the other day by Guwahati Development Department Minister Siddhartha Bhattacharya. Developed by a start-up Genrobotics, these robots will take care of the city's solid waste management. Gurugram and Coimbatore are the two other cities in the country using such robots. The Guwahati Municipal Corporation (GMC) procured the automatic sewer cleaning device along with six mini loaders from the JCB for civic work.

Drug smugglers held, ₹74.04 lakh seized

Three suspected drug smugglers from Manipur were arrested by the police who also seized ₹74.05 lakh from the trio. Official sources said the arrest was made based on intelligence inputs from an apartment in the city. The sources said the seized amount was suspected to be used in the financing of illicit trafficking of narcotropic substance. Sangita Laishanbam, one of the accused whose house was raided, was arrested earlier in the city after she was found in possession of narcotropic substance.

25%
of the first reported Covid-19 cases outside China has been linked to travellers to Italy, the CDC said

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	30	22	LC	Los Angeles	26	15	SNY
Colombo	31	25	TDS	Melbourne	13	8	LC
Doha	43	31	SNY	Moscow	20	12	LR
Dubai	43	33	SNY	New York	33	23	SNY
Houston	32	23	SNY	Singapore	30	25	TDS
Istanbul	29	20	SNY	Toronto	31	21	SNY
London	24	16	LC	Washington DC	37	27	LC

Australia unveils law forcing tech cos to pay for news

With release of draft code, govt aims to succeed where others have failed in making Google & FB pay for siphoning content from media firms

SYDNEY

AUSTRALIA unveiled a draft law on Friday to force Google and Facebook to pay news media for their content or face huge fines in one of the most aggressive moves by any government to curb the power of the US digital giants.

Treasurer Josh Frydenberg announced the "mandatory code of conduct" to govern relations between the struggling news industry and the tech firms after 18 months of negotiations failed to bring the two sides together. In addition to payment for content, the code covers issues like access to user data and transparency around the algorithms used to rank content in the platforms' news feeds and search results.

"Nothing less than the future of the Australian media landscape is at stake with these changes," Frydenberg said, calling the legislation a "world-leading regulatory framework".

He said legislation implementing the code would be introduced to parliament in the coming weeks after a final round of consultations -- and would include "substantial penalties" that could cost the tech companies hundreds of millions of dollars.

The move has been strongly pushed by Australia's two biggest media companies, Rupert Murdoch's (pictured) News Corp and Nine Entertainment, who stand to gain the most from the crackdown | AFP

While the code could eventually apply to any digital platform, Frydenberg said it would initially focus on Facebook and Google, two of the world's richest and most powerful companies.

Google responded quickly, saying it was "deeply disappointed" with the proposal.

"The government's heavy-handed intervention threatens to impede Australia's digital economy and impacts the services we can deliver to Australians," said Mel Silva, Google's managing director for Australia and New Zealand.

Facebook issued a terse one-line response that hinted it could reconsider its activites in Australia if the proposals were implemented. "We are reviewing the government's proposal to understand the impact it will have on the industry, our services and our investment in the news ecosystem in Australia," said Will Easton, Facebook's local manager.

The initiative has been closely watched around the globe as news media worldwide have suffered in an increasingly digital economy, where advertising revenue is overwhelmingly captured by Facebook, Google and other big tech firms.

The crisis has been exacerbated by the economic collapse caused by the coronavirus pandemic, with dozens of Australian newspapers closed and hundreds of journalists sacked in recent months. *AFP*

Tsitsi Dangarembga | AFP

Noted author arrested while protesting in Zimbabwe

HARARE

POLICE in Zimbabwe on Friday arrested internationally-aclaimed novelist Tsitsi Dangarembga as they enforced a ban on protests coinciding with the anniversary of President Emmerson Mnangagwa's election.

Dangarembga, 61, was bundled into a police truck as she demonstrated in the upmarket Harare suburb of Borrowdale alongside another protester, an AFP photographer saw. Her arrest came days after her latest novel, "This Mournable Body," entered the long list for the Booker Prize.

Streets in the centre of the city were largely deserted as police and troops scrutinised documents at checkpoints to prevent unauthorised entry.

Opposition politician Jacob Ngarivhume, head of a small party called Transform Zimbabwe, had called for demonstrations against alleged state corruption and a slumping economy. The protests were timed to coincide with the second anniversary of Mnangagwa's election, which the opposition says was a fraud.

But most people stayed at home after police issued a ban. "All security arms of government are on full alert and will deal decisively with any individuals or groups fomenting violence," it warned. *AFP*

Hong Kong delays elections in blow for anti-China camp

HONG KONG

HONG Kong's democracy supporters were dealt a huge blow Friday as authorities postponed local elections for a year because of the coronavirus, capping a devastating month of political disqualifications, arrests for social media posts and activists fleeing overseas.

The city's democracy camp has come under sustained attack since Beijing imposed a national security law last month – a move China's leaders described as a "sword" hanging over the head of its critics.

The ensuing weeks have sent a chill through a city used to speaking its mind and supposedly guaranteed certain freedoms and autonomy in a "One Country, Two Systems" deal agreed ahead of its 1997 handover from Britain.

On Friday evening chief executive Carrie Lam, a pro-Beijing appointee, announced that September elections for the financial hub's legislature would be delayed for a year using emergency anti-virus powers.

She denied the move was a political decision to hobble the city's opposition. "I am only paying attention to the current pandemic situation," she said.

Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam at a press conference on Friday | AFP

But the decision infuriated democracy supporters who had warned against any move to delay the polls, accusing authorities of using the Covid-19 pandemic to avoid a drubbing at the ballot box.

"This is a sleazy, contemptible political act to help thwart any victory on the part of the democrats in the original election," opposition lawmaker Claudia Mo told AFP, warning that public anger could explode.

The postponement came a day after a dozen prominent democracy activists were barred from standing for election because their political views were deemed unacceptable.

"Beyond any doubt (this) is the most scandalous election fraud era in Hong Kong history," Joshua Wong, one of the city's most recognisable democracy figures, told reporters Friday before the elections were postponed.

Wong was one of those disqualified, along with other young firebrand activists and some older, more moderate democracy campaigners.

Hong Kong is not a democracy -- its leader is chosen by pro-Beijing committees.

But half of its legislature's 70 seats are directly elected, offering the city's 7.5 million residents a rare chance to have their voices heard at the ballot box.

Planning to capitalise on last year's huge and often violent anti-Beijing protests, democracy activists had been hoping to win their first-ever majority in September. *AFP*

ASIA MATTERS

PAKISTAN

US seeks prosecution over its citizen killed inside Pakistani court

The United States on Thursday demanded action over the killing of a US citizen inside a Pakistani court as he faced blasphemy charges, saying it had warned Islamabad about his safety. The State Department said it was "shocked, saddened and outraged" by the killing of Tahir Ahmad Nasim, a member of the minority Ahmadiyya community who it said was a US citizen who had been lured to Pakistan from his home in Illinois. Nasim was arrested in 2018 on allegations of blasphemy, a highly inflammatory charge in the conservative Muslim nation that has frequently triggered vigilante violence. He was being escorted by police Wednesday to start his trial in the northern city of Peshawar when a man opened fire with a pistol, killing him on the spot, according to officials.

INDONESIA

Bali welcoming visitors after 4-month lockdown

Indonesia's resort island of Bali has reopened to domestic tourists after an almost four-month lockdown for the coronavirus pandemic. Bali's governor has been impatient to revive the economy and began easing restrictions on public activities three weeks ago. Under the easing that took effect Friday, Indonesians visiting Bali will face stringent rules at hotels, restaurants and beaches. Foreign tourists will be allowed on the island beginning Sept 11. Tourism is the main source of income for Bali.

SINGAPORE

Covid death rate of less than 0.1% is due to good healthcare, says expert

Until now, Singapore has had 27 Covid-19-related deaths. While coronavirus cases have surged past 50,000, only a tiny fraction of those who fell ill, just 128, or 0.3%, have been admitted to the ICU as of Monday. This makes for a case fatality rate of less than 0.1 per cent, an extremely low percentage compared with that of other developed nations, according to the Singapore daily report. An extremely low fatality rate like in Singapore is a reflection of the nation's high quality of healthcare' said Dr Phua Kai Hong, an adjunct senior research fellow with the Institute of Policy Studies at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. It also reflects how well-stocked and equipped ICUs are so patients are able to receive timely and proper utilisation when needed, Dr Phua said.

BRITAIN APPLIES BRAKES ON REOPENING

The United Kingdom on Friday "put the brakes on" easing lockdown measures and imposed new rules on millions of households in northern England, following concerns over a spike in coronavirus infections

NO HIGH-RISK PLACES

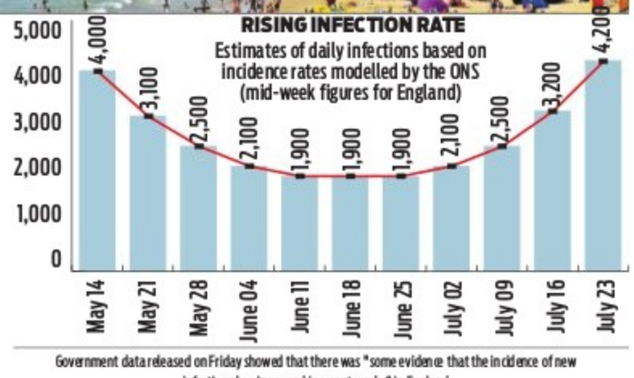
The reopening of high-risk activities such as casinos, bowling alleys and skating rinks, which was meant to begin on Saturday, will be delayed until at least August 15, as will the reintroduction of indoor performances and pilot schemes of larger crowds at sporting events, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced

Beachgoers enjoy the sunshine as they sunbathe and play in the sea in Bournemouth beach, southern England, on Friday | AFP

MORE LOCKDOWNS

The government increased regional lockdown measures -- under which people from different households are banned from meeting indoors -- for some 4 million people across Greater Manchester and parts of Lancashire and Yorkshire.

3 lakh
cases recorded in the UK so far



Government data released on Friday showed that there was "some evidence that the incidence of new infections has increased in recent weeks" in England

EXPRESS READ

DeGeneres apologises to show's staff amid inquiry

Los Angeles: Ellen DeGeneres apologised to the staff of her daytime TV talk show amid an internal company investigation of complaints of a difficult and unfair workplace. In a recent, BuzzFeed report, one current and 10 former show employees complained about issues including being fired after taking medical or bereavement leave. One worker said she left because of comments about her race. The complaints contrast sharply with DeGeneres' public exhortations for people to be kind and caring.

WH signals support for $600 jobless benefit

Washington: The White House appears keen to endorse a temporary extension of a $600 per week supplemental unemployment benefit as the popular boost to both the economy and family budgets is about to expire. The White House on Thursday offered a short-term extension of the $600 weekly unemployment benefit, but Democrats rejected it, saying it needs to be part of a far more sweeping bill that would deliver aid to state and local governments.

WARP SPEED

US to pay $2.1 bn for Sanofi, GSK vaccine

PARIS

PHARMA giants GlaxoSmithKline and Sanofi Pasteur have announced they will supply 100 million doses of its experimental COVID-19 vaccine to the United States as governments buy up supplies in hopes something will work.

The United States will pay up to $2.1 billion "for development including clinical trials, manufacturing, scale-up and delivery of its vaccine," the companies said in a statement. Sanofi will get the bulk of the funds.

The U.S. government has a further option for the supply of an additional 500 million doses longer term as part of its Operation Warp Speed program.

"The portfolio of vaccines being assembled for Operation Warp Speed increases the odds that we will have at least one safe, effective vaccine as soon as the end of this year," U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said in a statement. "Today's investment supports the Sanofi and GSK adjuvanted product all the way through clinical trials and manufacturing, with the potential to bring hundreds of millions of safe and effective doses to the American people."

Top infection expert Dr. Anthony Fauci on Friday expressed "cautious" optimism that a vaccine would be available, particularly by 2021 | AP

Earlier this week the British government signed a deal for 60 million doses of a potential coronavirus vaccine that could start to be rolled out in the first half of next year.

Britain's GSK and France's Sanofi's vaccine prospect is based on the existing DNA-based technology that is used to produce Sanofi's seasonal flu vaccine. It is one of several vaccines in development. The companies said discussions are ongoing with the European Commission. *AP*

Vietnam on high alert after 1st Covid death

HANOI

VIETNAM recorded its first coronavirus death on Friday as the pandemic rebounds in a country that had previously been praised for stubbing out the contagion.

The patient, a 70-year-old man, died in the central city of Hoi An nearly three weeks after being admitted to hospital with serious underlying conditions, as per state media.

The communist nation was applauded earlier this year for controlling Covid-19 with strict restrictions and a robust track-and-trace regime.

But an outbreak over the weekend in the beach resort of Danang, near Hoi An, has put the country back on high alert.

Health officials on Friday also announced the country's highest single daily caseload since the pandemic began.

"Elite medical experts" have been mobilised to help tamp down the outbreak in Danang, the deputy head of the National Institute of Epidemiology said as news of the first death emerged. They will join "around 1,000 people including military men" heading to the the centre of the latest cluster, a city that had been bursting with domestic tourists. *AFP*

FEMALE SOLIDARITY

Activists urge people to go beyond pics in #challengeaccepted

WASHINGTON

"CHALLENGE accepted," they wrote — female Instagram users across the world, flooding the photo-sharing app with black-and-white images. Together they formed a grid of millions of magazine-style captures of celebrities, spur-of-the-moment selfies and filtered snaps from weddings or other special occasions. The official goal: a show of support for other women.

An accompanying hashtag, #womensupportingwomen, often was the only sign of the campaign's intent, along with friends' Instagram handles to encourage participation. And some users quickly began to wonder: What's the point?

To some observers of social media activism, #challengeaccepted represents a clear example of "slacktivism" — campaigns based on social platforms that require little effort from users. There's no donation requested, no volunteer shift required, just a few minutes to post an image that people are unlikely to fight over.

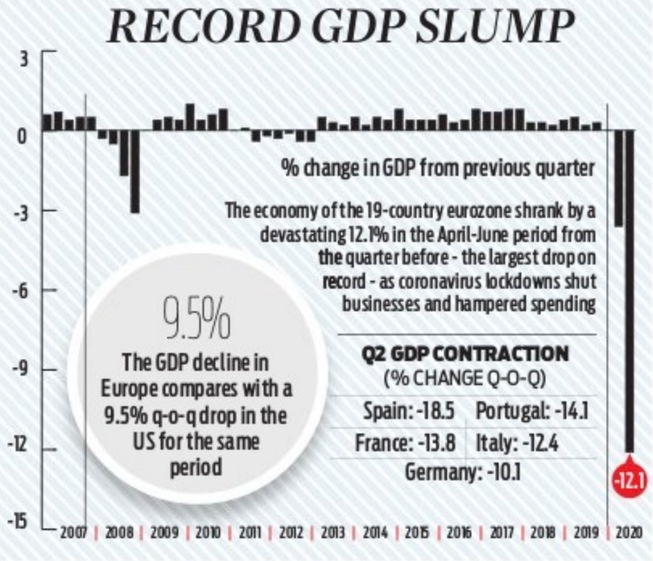
They say photo-driven campaigns can become a powerful push for social change. But they feel this latest effort so far lacks a concrete goal.

"Successful selfie protests made what's invisible visible," said Mona Kasra, an assistant professor of digital media design at the University of Virginia. "They are effective when they shift public perception, when they create a counterculture, when they resist, when they claim a place online."

Activists who work on women's rights globally say they are encouraged by any effort to spotlight the cause. But they suggested this push would have more impact if participants went beyond a photo posting.

"It's powerful, but it's also helpful to see an action piece, like what am I fighting for?" said Rosalyn Park, director of the Women's Human Rights Program. *AP*

EUROPE SUFFERS RECORD GDP SLUMP



PUBLIC NOTICE

BHARAT PETROLEUM CORPORATION LIMITED (BPCL) a Company incorporated under the Indian Companies 1913 is intending to take on lease the vacant land in **Sy. No.16/2, Area 10440 Sft** out of 2 acres 0.55 guntas from its owners **Mr. Kantha Raju R G** and **Mr. Sundar Raju R G,** located at Survey No.16/2, Rampura Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore Urban District bounded on the: North by: Avalahalli- Rampura Road, South by: Kantharaju's Remaining property, West by: Rajanna's property, and East by: Kantharaju's Remaining property for a period of 19 years 11 months. If any person or entity (organized or unorganized) other than Mr. Kantha Raju R G and Mr. Sundar Raju R G is having any right or claim in any manner over the said property the same may be intimated to BPCL, in the following address ***within 7 days*** from today 01.08.2020.

For **Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited**
Sd/- **Territory Manager (Retail)** Bangalore
7th Floor, Du Parc Trinity, 17th, Off MG Road, Bangalore-560 001, Karnataka.

Market Watch

MARKET			GOLD			SILVER			FOREX		
129.18 ▼	Sensex	37,606.89	₹29 ▲	24 carat (1 gm)	₹5,374.3	₹3050 ▲	Per kg	₹63,975	▲ Dollar		74.81
28.7 ▼	Nifty	11,073.45	₹29 ▲	22 carat (1 gm)	₹5,352.8	₹3.05 ▲	Per gm	₹63.97	▲ Euro		87.96

SBI net profit up 81% at ₹4,189 cr

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

LEADING state-run lender State Bank of India (SBI) reported an 81 per cent jump in its net profit at ₹4,189.34 crore for the quarter ended June 2020, compared with a profit of ₹2,312.20 crore in the same quarter last year, mainly on account of the stake sale in its life insurance subsidiary.

The rise in profit was on account of one-off gains of ₹1,539.73 crore on the sale of a certain portion of SBI's investment in its life insurance subsidiary SBI Life. With this, the bank now holds 55.50 per cent in its life insurance arm, down from 57.60 per cent earlier.

FIRST QUARTER

₹1.5K cr	16%
one-off gain from stake sale in subsidiary	growth recorded in total deposits

Capital adequacy ratio had also improved by 51 bps to 13.40 per cent in Q1FY21

Gross non-performing assets (NPAs) stood at 5.44 per cent as against 7.53 per cent. Net NPAs were at 1.86 per cent compared to 3.07 per cent, showing signs of improvement.

Total deposits grew at 15.96 per cent year-on-year and credit growth stood at 6.58 per cent. Capital adequacy ratio (CAR) had also improved by 51 bps to 13.40 per cent as on June 2020.

SBI chairman Rajnish Kumar maintained an optimistic outlook but warned that the pandemic will take its toll in the future and said that the bank has moderated its FY21 loan growth target to 8 per cent as against 10 per cent earlier.

He also added that the bank expects fresh slippages to be at ₹63,000 crore this fiscal, under a stressed scenario.

"In March we have estimated that our fresh slippages in this year (FY21) will not go beyond ₹63,000 crore. That is the stress test. We believe that we will end up with a lower number. That is the limit that we have set for this year, which is a number in a stressed scenario," he noted.

Kumar added that moratorium does not necessarily suppress slippage ratios and that the bank has not witnessed major behaviour changes among borrowers. However, he pitched against extending the loan moratorium.

Moratorium extension on the anvil

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that her ministry was working with the Reserve Bank of India on extending the moratorium on loan repayments and restructuring borrowings. Soon after the lockdown was announced, RBI had allowed borrowers to put back loan repayments by 3 months and then extended it by another 3 months.

'Banks can't refuse credit under guarantee scheme'

FM says MSMEs covered under emergency credit line must get loans

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

FINANCE Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday made it clear that banks could not refuse credit to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) under the emergency credit line announced by the Government and stressed that such refusals should be reported.

Sitharaman, who was speaking at a meeting with industry captains organised by industry chamber FICCI, also said that her ministry was working with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on extending the moratorium on loan repayments and restructuring borrowings.

"Banks cannot refuse credit to MSMEs covered under emergency credit facility. If refused, such instances must be reported. I will look into it," the finance minister said.

Officials separately added that the government was mulling raising the limit for loan sanctions under the ₹3 lakh crore credit guarantee scheme which is supposed to dole out collateral-free loans.

However, as of July 23, 2020, the total amount sanctioned under the scheme by public sector and private banks stood at ₹1.3 lakh crore, out of which some ₹82,000 crore have been actually disbursed.

Industrialists have been complaining that banks have delayed sanctions and, in some cases, refused loans under the scheme altogether. Meanwhile, the minister also said she was working with RBI on the need to restructure loans due to the adverse impact of Covid on industrial activity. Soon after the lockdown was announced, the central bank had allowed borrowers to put back loan repayments by 3 months and then extended it by another 3 months.

Industry chambers have since been clamouring for another extension of this moratorium up to December- end, as well as restructuring loans. But several top bankers including Deepak Parekh of HDFC, Uday Kotak of Kotak Mahindra and SBI chairman Rajnish Kumar have spoken out against extensions.

The RBI, in its fiscal stability report released recently, has already warned that India's banks may see gross bad loans burgeoning to a two decade high of 12.5 per cent by March-end 2020.

POLLUTION

Registration of BS-IV vehicles banned by SC

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on Friday directed that no BS-IV vehicles will be registered with the transport authorities till it decides on the issue of the sale of such vehicles during the lockdown.

During a brief hearing, a bench headed by Justice Arun Mishra passed the order and asked the automobile dealers association to place before it the details of vehicles sold either online or through direct sale during the lockdown period in the last week of March.

The court said it needed to verify the details regarding the sale and registration of BS-IV vehicles during the lockdown period.

According to the government's affidavit, auto dealers have sold over eight times the sales numbers they have shown to the apex court while Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) claimed sales of 1.34 lakh BS-IV units.

The bench orally observed, "Something fraudulent might have taken place."

During the earlier hearing, the court had pulled up FADA for violating the court order. The Bench had on July 8 recalled the March 27 order by which it had allowed sale of BS-IV vehicles for 10 days across India, except in Delhi-NCR, after lifting of the COVID-19 lockdown.

The relief, which was later withdrawn, was granted to the dealers by the Supreme Court keeping in mind the fact that the country had decided not to allow their sale after March 2020.

The court has now slated the next hearing for August 13. The Court had on July 24 expressed displeasure over an oral plea by FADA that dealers should be allowed to return unsold inventory of BS-IV vehicles to the manufacturers so that they could be exported to other countries.

The association had said that there are some countries where sale of BS-IV compliant vehicles were still allowed. However, the Bench had said, "Why should we pass orders for that? Manufacturers were aware of the deadline."

Indian Oil net profit tanks 47% in Q1, revenue from operations down 41%

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

INDIAN Oil Corporation Ltd (IOC) on Friday reported a net profit of ₹1,911 crore for the first quarter of FY2020-21 (FY21), a 47 per cent drop year-on-year compared to the same period of the previous fiscal.

But, while the precipitous drop in revenues from operations during the quarter reflected the impact the lockdowns had on demand, the company also recorded an inventory loss due to the collapse of the crude oil markets in the month of April.

According to the company, its income from operations fell to ₹88,936.54 crore in April-June from ₹150,136.70 crore a year ago. "The company's sales during the month of April 2020 were impacted significantly by the nationwide lockdown and consequently capacity utilisation of the plants was lower. However, the same has come back close to normal levels by the month of June 2020," IOCL said. IOC Chairman Shrikant Madhav Vaidya told reporters that the oil marketing company recorded an inventory loss of ₹3,196 crore in Q1 as compared to inventory gain of ₹2,362 crore a year back.

The spread of COVID-19, along with nationwide lockdown starting from March 25, 2020, has caused a serious threat to human lives and resulted in a reduction in global demand and supply chain disruption

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd

Inventory losses are recorded booked when a company buys raw material at a certain price, but by the time it is able to process it into finished product, prices have fallen. Since refinery prices are determined by prevailing international oil prices, an inventory loss is recorded by marketing companies like IOCL.

The official also said that Covid had impacted capacity utilisation during the quarter, with the company's refineries averaging 69 per cent. This has risen to to 93 per cent in July but subsequent lockdowns by states have lowered the capacity utilisation to 75 per cent. "We won't get back to normal times in the near future" due to way pandemic was spreading, the company's chairman said.

CIFC optimistic about FY21 profits, sharpens focus on rural market

BINITA JAISWAL @ Chennai

CHOLAMANDALAM Investment and Finance Company, a Murugappa Group firm, is optimistic that its profits in current financial year 2020-21 (FY21) will be at par with last year, despite the turbulent times. "Disbursements in this FY may be lower than last year, but we expect the loan book to grow by at least single digits. We will likely be able to post profits in line with last year," Arulselvan D, executive vice president and CFO of Cholamandalam, told this publication.

The company is upbeat since its net profit rose by 37 per cent to ₹431 crore in the first quarter of FY21 that ended in June 2020 as against ₹314 crore during the corresponding quarter last year.

"The rural economy is picking up, which boosted our business. Besides, we focused on collections, checked our NPAs and contained our expenses too. All these factors contributed to growth in the quarter," added Arulselvan. On the revival of the market, Arulselvan said that post the third quarter, things will start improving marginally and bounce back fully in FY22.

The total income of the company grew by 4 per cent to ₹2,114 crore in the quarter ending June 2020 against ₹2,030 crore during the same period last year. The quarterly results of the company were announced on Thursday.

In this financial year, the company has plans to focus more on increasing its penetration in Tier II and III towns along with the rural market. The rural segment accounts for almost 75 per cent of the company's revenue.

The monsoon is pretty good this year and the government is also focusing on the rural economy, so demand from the rural sector will be better. We want to leverage this

Arulselvan D, EVP & CFO, CIFC

"The monsoon is pretty good this year and the government is also focusing on the rural economy, so demand from the rural sector will be better. We want to leverage this," said Arulselvan. Meanwhile, the company has re-evaluated the quality of its underlying assets and says it now holds a strong liquidity position with ₹7,169 crore as cash balance as of June 2020 and its cash position is adequate to meet all its maturities and fixed obligations up to December 2020.

CIFC has also accelerated multiple growth initiatives post the pandemic, including enhancing the use of digital platforms for disbursements and collections, lead generation and ramping up ability to remotely interact with customers and field assets.

Expenditure up 13% in 3 months

CONTINUED FROM P1

IN the same period, total expenditure was ₹8.16 lakh crore as the government front-loaded spending on many accounts including direct benefit scheme, free food grain supply and Ujjwala scheme. Expenditure rose 13% over three months to ₹8.16 lakh crore, compared to ₹7.22 lakh crore last year.

Fiscal deficit had already touched seven-year high at 4.6% of the GDP for 2019-20.

The government has already increased its market borrowings target to ₹12 lakh crore for the current fiscal year from earlier estimates of ₹7.8 lakh crore to fund some portion of its budget spending.

'Policy needed to wean people away from 2G'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

RELIANCE Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani on Friday said that urgent policy measures were called for when it came to weaning the Indian telecom market away from 2G phones, which he said had locked away a considerable portion of the market away from the benefits granted by even basic internet services.

He was speaking at a function organised by industry body COAI and IMC Studio celebrating 25 years of mobile telephony in India.

"I specifically refer to the fact that India still has 300 million mobile subscribers trapped in the 2G era, their feature phones keep them excluded even from the basic usage of the internet at a time when both India and the rest of the world are standing at the doorsteps of 5G telephony. I think necessary policy steps should be taken with utmost urgency to make 2G a part of history," Ambani said.

The Reliance chairman was not the only major telecom player to speak during the event. Bharti Airtel chairman Sunil Mittal said that the government should lower the high taxes and levies on the telecom sector. It should not view the sector as a source for the exchequer, but rather as a "force multiplier" for ensuring economic momentum, he said.

"Taxes have generally been very high on this industry. It is important that this is reviewed thoroughly and telecom resources like spectrum, levies should not become a source for the exchequer, but should become a force multiplier in ensuring economic momentum becomes faster and gets accelerated. So, the government can earn its dues from other industries who are going to be riding on the back of this wonderful industry," Mittal said, adding that it was time for India to take a lead in manufacturing.

Mukesh Ambani

Sunil Mittal

25 YEARS OF MOBILE

Mukesh Ambani said that India took a big flight into the bright future with the advent of mobile services in 1995.

In 1995, the cost of a call from one cell phone was ₹24, which comprised ₹16 for the caller and ₹8 for the called

Now, Ambani pointed out, voice calls are free on most plans without any time limit

Tata Motors posts ₹8,438 cr net loss in Q1

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

TATA Motors on Friday posted a consolidated net loss of ₹8,437.99 crore for the quarter ended June 30 after the Covid-19 pandemic impacted its net revenue by around 48 per cent. Tata, which also owns Jaguar Land Rover, had reported a loss of ₹3,698.34 crore in the corresponding quarter last year.

Total revenue from operations dipped 48 per cent year-on-year to ₹31,983.06 crore during the quarter under review and the firm's standalone business—Tata Motors Ltd (TML)—continue to perform poorer than JLR.

EXPRESS READ

Reliance Home Finance reports ₹161 cr loss in Q1

New Delhi: Reliance Home Finance on Friday reported a net loss of ₹161.34 crore during the first quarter of 2020-21 due to a fall in interest income. The Reliance Capital subsidiary had posted a net profit of ₹48.63 crore in the same quarter of the previous fiscal year. However, the net loss for the quarter was lower than ₹238.37 crore reported for the March 2020 quarter. Reliance Home Finance shares closed at ₹2.08 apiece on BSE, down 4.59 per cent from the previous close.

UCO Bank posts Q1 net profit of ₹21.5 cr

New Delhi: Public sector UCO Bank on Friday posted a net profit of ₹21.46 crore in the first quarter ended June 2020 on lower bad loan provisions. The bank had registered a net loss of ₹601.45 crore in the same quarter of the previous fiscal year. Quarter-on-quarter basis, UCO Bank had logged a profit of ₹16.78 crore in the March 2020 quarter. Its total income in April-June 2020 fell slightly to ₹4,436.57 crore.

June non-food credit growth slows to 6.7%

New Delhi: Non-food credit growth of banks slowed to 6.7 per cent in June, as against a growth of 11.1 per cent in the same month previous year, according to the Reserve Bank of India. The loan growth in June 2020 was nearly the same as in May. Personal loans continued to perform well, registering a growth of 10.5 per cent in June 2020, almost similar to May 2020 but lower than 16.6 per cent in June 2019.

GO LOCAL

Import curbs on fully-made TVs to boost domestic sector

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

IN a bid to encourage local manufacturing, the Centre has imposed restrictions on imports of fully-built colour television sets. The curbs, while unlikely to impact prices, are nevertheless expected to benefit local contract manufacturers, attract investments in component production and improve assembly lines, say industry executives.

Officials also say that the move would fuel the country's dream of becoming a manufacturing hub for TVs and a competitive partner in the world economy. "This step is definitely in the right direction and will help in creating a global hub, which we want to be, and it also helps to create a strong ecosystem for manufacturing of the products," said Sunil Vachani, chairman, Dixon Technologies. The homegrown company manufactures TVs for the likes of Samsung, Xiaomi at its local factories.

This will also help control the "flood of import" of TV sets in the short term and the industry will be self-reliant with the required scale and will compete with global markets, Vachani added.

The TV segment is one of the larger subsets of Appliance and Consumer Electronics, accounting for volumes of almost 16-17 crore with an estimated sale value of about ₹25,000 crore annually.

Shipments worth ₹7,000 crore come from countries like China, Thailand and Vietnam. Official data shows that as much as $781 million worth of TVs were imported in 2019-20. Of this, $428 million was from Vietnam and $293 million was from China.

According to Kamal Nandi, President, Consumer Electronics and Appliances Manufacturers Association, the move will attract more investments in technology and manufacturing which will lead to creation of more jobs. "CEAMA is closely working with the government to formulate and facilitate both phased manufacturing and end-to-end TV manufacturing in India. Various representations around the benefits of such a plan have also been submitted," Nandi said.

Industry officials say the decision will impact the business of companies such as Vu and China's TCL.

For established brands like Samsung, Sony, LG, and even relatively newer entrant Xiaomi, however, the restrictions are likely to affect imports of some premium models even as a large portion of their products on the market are locally made and sourced.

Aston Martin Racing Driver Academy retains Akhil

Aston Martin Racing (AMR) Driver Academy has retained Bengaluru's Akhil Rabindra for 2020 season. Akhil is one of the 12 elite drivers in the academy. They will undergo a year of training and assessment with the AMR team in the UK. At the end of the calendar year, the best performer will land a junior driver contract in 2021, with the factory Aston Martin Racing team.

Limited family members in IPL?

Relatives have to stay in bio-bubble if they accompany players, support staff in UAE

VENKATA KRISHNA B @ Chennai

THE Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) will leave it to the franchises to decide with regards to players and support staff bringing their families along for the IPL, which is scheduled to begin in United Arab Emirates (UAE) on September 19 pending government approval.

Apart from a couple of franchises, it is understood that others are not keen on families being on tour given the risk factor involved. Chennai Super Kings have already made the decision to only take the players, support staff and franchise officials for the tournament. The franchise could end up being one of the first ones to touch base in UAE as it plans to be there by no later than August 12. The three-time champions will be flying out of Chennai as they are in talks with a private carrier for a charter flight.

Franchises still have plenty of questions, which are left unanswered, but some of them have more or less decided on the protocols to be followed during the tournament. They expect the standard operating procedure (SOP), which will be shared after the IPL Governing Council meeting on Sunday, to help them finalise their plans and start visa procedures.

Most franchises are planning to leave as a group and it is understood that some of them have told players to take Covid-19 tests before they join the team in a city from where they intend to fly out. Then they will take another test, the result of which will be taken to the UAE, where they would be subjected to another test.

Although Kings XI Punjab owner Ness Wadia wanted players to be tested every day, the BCCI has no such plans as it believes its SOP will address all the concerns. However, the BCCI will tell the franchises to conduct a said number of tests, which would be mandatory and non-negotiable and will be followed by a medical team.

Given the humongous contingent involved, BCCI is clear about the need for transparency in protocols as it expects full co-operation from franchises and other stakeholders with regards to keeping the bio-secure bubble closed. Any individual who breaches the bio-secure bubble will be asked to self isolate as it doesn't want Jofra Archer type of incident in the IPL as the risk factor will be far too many. Hence, the BCCI will arrange a programme for each franchise on dos and don'ts in a bio-secure bubble as it believes educating players will help a big deal in the smooth conduct of the tournament.

In case franchises do allow players and support staff to bring their families, then the BCCI would place strict orders that they too will stay within the bubble.

Wait and watch for Manu's family after positive case at range

ANMOL GURUNG @ Chennai

AFTER around four months on the sidelines due to coronavirus-enforced lockdown, few elite shooters had managed to get training at the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range in New Delhi. However, after it was announced that a national coach, who was on duty at the range, tested positive for the coronavirus, that has raised some apprehensions.

Manu Bhaker's father, Ramkishan Bhaker, is one among them but he remains hopeful everything will be alright and Manu's training won't be disrupted. Speaking from Gujarat, Ramkishan revealed that both Manu — who specialises in 10m and 25m pistol — and himself had come in contact with the coach while training at the said range, but before the coach tested positive.

And he also said that Manu is currently at home in Charkhi Dadri (Haryana) and had gone for training at the range for just a week from around mid-July. However, Ramkishan is not overtly worried. In a mandatory test when he landed in Gujarat, he tested negative.

"I didn't test because the coach returned with positive result, but I did it because it's a mandatory for me in my job," Ramkishan, a chief engineer at Merchant Navy, told this daily. "I wouldn't have tested if it was not a compulsion."

After the range had been reopened for elite shooters from early July, Manu — who has a makeshift 10m range installed at her home — had visited to get some much-needed training, especially in 25m pistol. "I have no symptoms, neither do my family. I'm concerned of course...we had met the coach, and we had followed basic social distancing. We are alright for now.," he said.

Whatever little Ramkishan could witness during Manu's week-long training, he was highly encouraged. "It didn't feel like she had been away from the sport for long," he said, adding that Manu will restart practice at the range if the national camp resumes or she might go on her own later this month for another session.

Family over CPL for Sohal

ASHIM SUNAM @ Bengaluru

FAMILY comes first for former Punjab cricketer, Sunny Sohal. He has withdrawn from the Caribbean Premier League, scheduled from August 18, due to the Covid-19 situation. It will be played across just two venues in Trinidad and Tobago. For those travelling from overseas, there is a two week quarantine period. Sohal, who now plays for United States of America, resides in Maryland. He was drafted by St Kitts & Nevis Patriots.

"A private jet was supposed to take us from Barbados to Trinidad. If I had gone, it might have been difficult to come back (in case of emergency) after tournament starts, so I withdrew. Look at the cases in US. What if the border in US gets closed . Things like CPL will come next year too, but the family has to come first in such times." said Sohal, who informed his franchise about his decision two weeks back.

Full report on newindianexpress.com

Eyeing first glory

Both Mikel Arteta and Frank Lampard can bookend their first season as coaches in the top flight with a trophy. Here are a few talking points before the FA Cup final between Arsenal and Chelsea...

It generates trust when you win titles. It generates moments when together you go through some good emotions. It brings everybody together, you have memories...
Mikel Arteta

There were a lot of unknowns when I came in, could we move forward without Eden Hazard? We knew we had lost a massive player. We've a real spirit now...
Frank Lampard

GOALS COULD BE APLENTY

Even though finals tend to be watchful, cagey affairs, this one promises goals. They have both been suspect at the back — they both combined let in 102 in the season — and that could continue. When you throw in the form of Olivier Giroud and Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, this could be the highest scoring final in recent times.

EUROPE FACTOR

While Chelsea are already in the Champions League next season, Arsenal need to win this to get into the Europa League. With their finances in bad shape, they need the win, if they are to get much needed money to invest in the transfer market. Lose this and they might have to cash in on a few of their saleable stars.

CHELSEA 11/10 ARSENAL 5/2

3 Arsenal have won three FA Cups since 2014.

5 Olivier Giroud is seeking to win a fifth FA Cup (three with Arsenal and one with Chelsea).

Wrestling coaches return, start hotel quarantine

FIROZ MIRZA @ Chennai

CLEARING first hurdle, wrestling coaches Shako Bentinidis and Temo Kazarashvili landed at the New Delhi airport late on Thursday night boarding an extradition flight meant for Indians stranded in Georgia. The next hurdle is a mandatory 14-day quarantine period, which the duo has to serve before joining their wards. Shako is staying at a hotel in New Delhi for seven days before flying out for Inspire Institute of Sports (IIS) in Vijayanagar, Karnataka. Temo left for Sonepat in Haryana and will undergo a mandatory quarantine period in a hotel there.

Given the checks put in place due to the Covid-19 pandemic, checking out of the airport took more than the usual time. "I landed at the airport at around 9:30pm. It took me at least five hours to reach the hotel," Shako, personal coach of star wrestler Bajrang Punia (65kg) and Jitender Kinha (74kg), told this daily.

"I have spoken to Bajrang and Jitender and they sounded happy. But we still have to bide our time before we get back to the mat," said Shako.

Flying to India was not an easy task given the way the country is witnessing a rapid rise in the number of coronavirus cases. "Authorities in Georgia were hesitant as they felt travelling to India is risky at the moment. More importantly, the flight was meant exclusively for Indians. But the Indian Embassy in Tbilisi helped us. Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) also extended the support," added the 44-year-old.

The coach, however, is not aware who will bear his expenses during his stay at Delhi's hotel. "That will be figured out. It's not an issue though."

Shako left India in March after the pandemic led to deferment of the national camp.

No camp till Aug 15

It is learnt that the national camp for wrestlers is unlikely to commence before August 15.

Government of Karnataka
SHIVAMOGGA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
McGann Teaching Hospital, Shivamogga-577 201
(An Autonomous Medical Institution)
Ph: 08182 229933/ 264199, Fax: 08182 264100,
Website: **www.sims-shimoga.com**
No:SIMS/Store/Tender/HNS/12/2020-21/668
Date: **28.07.2020**

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement)

SIMS invites tender for Disposables, Miscellaneous, Sutures, Ophthalmic And Dental Items for a perid of two year to SIMS, Shimoga **(reference No:SIMS/Store/Tender/HNS/12/2020-21/668 Date: 28.07.2020)** Bid documents available are from **28.07.2020** to **26.08.2020**. Last date for bid is submission : **26.08.2020**. Opening of bid document is on **28.08.2020**. at **10.00** am. The tenders can be obtained through e-procurement from the tendering website: **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** Aspiring bidders need to register on e-procurement portal. Further bidders can take assistance with e-procurement helpdesk at: **080-25501216, 25501227**.

Sd/- **Chief Administrative Officer,**
Shivamogga Institute of Medical Sciences, Shivamogga.

DIPR/SMG/No.124
07/zenkar/2020-21

Government of India
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
Administration Section
Post Bag no.1.,Yelwal, Mysuru-571130
Telephone:0821-2406442/2406430/Fax:0821-2403065

Tender No. BARC/MYS/ADMIN/01/2020 invited for the following work has been cancelled due to Technical and Administrative reasons:

Various works at CISF Barrack (Supply of Cook, Barber, Washerman & Helper)

Sd/-
Chief Administrative Officer
For & on behalf of the President of India

KARNATAKA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Shivamogga Division,
Shivamogga Divisional Traffic Section, Shivamogga
No.: KST/SMG/Traffic/Commercial/765/2020-21 Date: 30.07.2020
E-Tender and Negotiation Notification No. 03/2020-21
(G.S.O. No. 787/2017 through e-Procurement)

E-tender applications invited from interested parties / bidders through e-procurement from **Dt.: 31.07.2020** for selecting licensees for the vacant / to be vacated commercial stalls at `Honnali, Bhadravathi and Sagara' bus stands in Shivamogga division limits of K.S.R.T.C. E-tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** Last date for submitting online application by prospective tenderers with all documents specified in e-procurement is **17:00 hrs on 19.08.2020**. Date of opening of e-tenders is **21.08.2020 at 11:30 hrs**. (if there are no technical snags) and applications invited from interested parties / bidders through Negotiation / Sandhana is Dt. **21.08.2020 at 11:30 hrs** at this office.

For more details please contact Divisional Office, KSRTC, Shivamogga Division, Shivamogga-577204 during office hours.

Contact telephone numbers: **Divisional Traffic Officer: 7625078552, Asst. Traffic Manager: 7625078541. E-Proc Helpline: +91-8046010000 / +91-8022631200.**

Sd/-, Divisional Controller, Shivamogga Division

Rajasthan Co-operative Dairy Federation Limited
"SARAS SANKUL" J.L.N. MARG, JAIPUR-302017, Telefax: 0141-2702135
e-mail: dpm-rcdf@rajasthan.gov.in, Website: www.sarasmilkfed.rajasthan.gov.in
No. RCDF/F.6/DPM/(7166-XXV)/2020/ Dated: 29.07.2020

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Single Stage two-envelopes unconditional Technical and Financial e-tenders/ Bids are invited by Rajasthan Co-operative Dairy Federation Limited, from experienced manufacturers having manufacturing facilities situated in Rajasthan and its adjoining states only, for service contract of conversion of surplus milk into Ag-mark Ghee and ISI mark SMP & WMP to be supplied by our milk unions. Brief particulars of the procurement are given below:

Approximate value of Services	Last time and date for receiving Bids	Period of the Contract	Validity period of Bids	Price of Bidding Document	Amount of Bid Security
Rupess 15.00 Crores	Upto 3.00 PM of 02/09/2020	12 months	120 Days	Rs. 1000	Rs. 30,00,000/- (Rupees thirty Lac)

The Complete Bidding Document can be obtained from our website www.sarasmilkfed.rajasthan.gov.in, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in. Bid will be submitted on http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in (UBN CDF2021SLRC00372)

Raj. Samwad/C/2990/2020-21 **General Manager (DPM & Projects)**

जीवन में भरे रस – हमारा प्यारा नीले

RAJIV GANDHI HOUSING CORPORATION LTD.
(A Govt. of Karnataka Enterprise)
Cauvery Bhavan, 9th Floor, E&F Block, KHB Complex,
K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009. Tele No: 080-23118888
Fax No: 080-23112234
No. RGHCL/09/APC/01/2020-21 Dated: 30.07.2020
E-TENDER NOTIFICATION (2nd Call)
(Through e-procurement Portal Only)

Rajiv Gandhi Housing Corporation Ltd, invites e-tenders for **"Hiring of Vehicle on monthly rental basis for office use"** from Travel Agencies registered with Government of Karnataka.

Tender documents can be procured through the e-procurement portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** The tender documents can be downloaded from the website starting from **30.07.2020** and Last date for submission of tender **is upto 4.30 pm on 14.08.2020.** Further details can be obtained by logging on to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
DIPR/DDU/688/2020-21 **General Manager (PI)**

Government of India
Department of Atomic Energy
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
Administration Section
Post Bag no.1.,Yelwal, Mysuru-571130
Telephone:0821-2406442/2406430/Fax:0821-2403064

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

The Chief Administrative Officer, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mysuru invites on behalf of the President of India, **online** tenders for the following work from the Contractors on the approved list of Government, PWD, CPWD or the Contractors who have carried out similar and required magnitude of work in reputed organization for:

Tender Reference No.	BARC/MYS/ADMIN/07/2020
Name of work	Various works at CISF Barrack (Supply of Cook, Barber, Washerman & Helper)
Estimated Cost	33,72,000/- (Thirty three lakhs seventy two thousand only)
Earnest Money Deposit	67,440/- (Rupees Sixty seven thousand four hundred and forty only)
Period of Contract	Two years
Tender Sale Period	From 3.8.2020 to 14.8.2020 (11.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs.)

Interested tenderers may please refer detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details, which can be downloaded from web site **www.tenderwizard.com/dae** and **www.barc.gov.in**

Chief Administrative Officer
For & on behalf of President of India

Government of India
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
NUCLEAR FUEL COMPLEX
ECIL Post, Hyderabad - 500 062

E- Tender Notice

On behalf of President of India, General Manager, NFC-Kota, Nuclear Fuel Complex, Hyderabad-500 062, invites sealed item rate tenders from the eligible contractors who have executed works of similar nature and magnitude for the following work:

Sl.	Tender No & Name of the work	Estimated Cost	EMD
1	**NFC-K/ELE/2020/9 Electrical Cable Tray Systems**	**₹7,89,13,000/-**	**₹15,78,260/-**

Period for view and downloading : 01.08.2020 to 20.08.2020
Due date for online submission : 07.09.2020 up to 21:00hrs
Due date for receiving hard copies : 21.09.2020up to 14:00hrs
Due date for opening bid : 21.09.2020at 15:00 hours

Detailed NIT can be viewed from **www.nfc.gov.in,** tender documents can be downloaded from **www.tenderwizard.com/DAE.** Bidders must have a valid class III digital signature certificate and must enroll with **www.tenderwizard.com/DAE.**

General Manager, NFC-Kota
For and On behalf of President of India

EDUCATION. GOALS. AND GAME CHANGING DECISIONS.
edex YOUR LIFE COACH
Every Monday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

QuoteExpress
IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING
WINSTON CHURCHILL

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು(ಉತ್ತರ)
ಪತ್ರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ನಂ. ಎಚ್‌ಡಿಎಮ್‌ಸಿ/60/01/2020–21 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 31–07–2020

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

ಜಾಹಿರಾತು ನಂ:01 ದಿನಾಂಕ:31/07/2020

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸನ್ 2020–21 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ನಿಧಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಜೂರಾದ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಆದೇಶ 1999–2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಆ್ಯಕ್ಟ್ 2000 ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ (KW1) ಹಾಗೂ (KW2) ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಬಿಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ನಿಯಮದನ್ವಯ PWD/ HDMC/ಇತರೇ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತರಾದ 1ನೇ, 2ನೇ & 3ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಂದ ಸದರಿ ಯಾವುದಾದರೂ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ, ಸದರಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಅ. ನಂ	ವ. ನಂ.	ಕೆಲಸದ ಹೆಸರು	ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂಬರ್	ಮಕ್ಕೆಗಿಟ್ಟ ಅಂದಾಜು ಹಣ (ರೂಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಮುಂಗಡ ಹಣ (ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಕೆಲಸದ ಅವಧಿ	ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರ ದರ್ಜೆ
		ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ವರ್ಗದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಮೀಸಲಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು					
1	05–28	ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ವಿಭಾಗದ ವಾರ್ಡ ನಂ.28ರ ಅಶೋಕನಗರ ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್.ಆರ್ ಬೋಮ್ಮಾಯಿಯವರ ಮನೆ ಹತ್ತಿರ ಮತ್ತು ಶ್ರೀ ಕುಸನೂರವರ ಮನೆ ಹತ್ತಿರ ರಸ್ತೆ ಡಾಂಬರೀಕರಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ. (HDMC Budgeted Work 2020-21)	104462	8.35	20875.00	3 ತಿಂಗಳು	3ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟು
2	05–27	ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ವಿಭಾಗದ ವಾರ್ಡ ನಂ.27 ರಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ಉಣಕಲ್ ರುದ್ರಭೂಮಿ / ಸ್ಮಶಾನ ಗಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶವಾಗಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ	104463	49.80	99600	4 ತಿಂಗಳು	1ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ

ಒಟ್ಟು 02 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು ಇದ್ದು, ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ವರ್ಗದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಮೀಸಲಿರಿಸಿದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ, ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಅವಧಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಉತ್ತರ) ಇವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಚೇರಿಯ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 0836:2213834 ನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅಂತರ್‌ಜಾಲದ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ **http:/www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **04–08–2020** ರಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **20–08–2020** ರಂದು ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **4.00** ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ

ಟೆಂಡರ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **21–08–2020** ರಂದು ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **4:30** ಘಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ

ಸಹಿ/–
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು(ಉತ್ತರ)
ಹು–ಧಾ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ

ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ಇ/ಧಾ/ಕಿರಡಿ ಸಾಯ/235/2020–21

भारत सरकार /GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग /DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण ग्रुप/CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP,
इसरो नोदन कॉम्प्लेक्स /ISRO PROPULSION COMPLEX
महेंद्रगिरि/MAHENDRAGIRI-627 133, फोन/Ph:04637 281582, 281672, फैक्स/Fax:04637 281681

ई– निविदा सूचना /E-TENDER NOTICE दिनांक/Date: 30.07.2020

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु **ई–निविदा** द्वारा मद–दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।
On behalf of the President of India, item-rate tenders are invited through **e-tendering** for the following works:

क्र. सं. Sl. No.	कार्य का नाम (सिविल / विद्युत् के कार्य) NAME OF WORK (CIVIL / ELECTRICAL WORKS)	प्राक्कलित लागत Estimated Cost (₹)	कार्य पूरा होने की अवधि Period of Completion	ईएमडी EMD (₹)
1.	आईपीआरसी/सीएमजी/टीएस/ई–06/एमए/सीपीएच–03/2020–21 / NIT no: IPRC/CMG/TS/e-06/MA/CPH-03/2020-21			
	आईपीआरसी, महेंद्रगिरि के सीआईएसएफ /अनिवार्य स्टाफ क्वार्टर क्षेत्र, आईएलएचपी क्षेत्र तथा ग्रुप ए क्षेत्र में जन स्वास्थ्य रखरखाव के कार्य।/ Public Health Maintenance works at CISF/Essential Staff Quarters area, ILHP area and Group "A" area at IPRC, Mahendragiri.	13.86 (लाख/Lakh)	12 (बारह महीने/ Twelve Months)	27,800/-
2.	आईपीआरसी/सीएमजी/टीएस/ई–10/एमए/ ईलई–05/2020–21 / NIT no: IPRC/CMG/TS/e-10/MA/ELE-05/2020-21			
	आईपीआरसी, महेंद्रगिरि के बी, सी तथा क्रायो सुविधाओं में विद्युत् फीडर लाइनों सहित मार्ग प्रकाश का वार्षिक रखरखाव। / Annual Maintenance of street light including power feeder lines in B,C and Cryo facilities, IPRC, Mahendragiri.	21.99 (लाख/Lakh)	12 (बारह महीने/ Twelve Months)	44,000/-

ऑन–लाइन निवेदन करने की तिथि/Dates for Online Request: **From: 01.08.2020** (10:00 बजे/Hrs) से/to **07.08.2020** (18:00 बजे/Hrs) तक।
नियत समय व ऑन–लाइन प्रस्तुतीकरण की तिथि/Due Time & Date of Submission: **10.08.2020** को/upto 18.00 बजे/ Hrs तक।
अधिक जानकारी/ भविष्य शुद्धिपत्र के लिए देखें / **For further details / future corrigenda, visit : www.isro.gov.in/tenders** (या/or) www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO
ग्रुप निदेशक, सीएमजी, आईपीआरसी / Group Director, CMG, IPRC

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Buildings (C&M) Circle, Tirunelveli- 627 002.
TYPE OF CONTRACT: LUMPSUM (Pre Qualification (Two Cover System) & Rate Tender system)
Tender Notice No : 05/ 2020-2021, Dated:31.07.2020

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu sealed Tenders are invited from the contractors registered in Public Works Department in the appropriate class to the office of the Superintending Engineer, PWD, Buildings (C&M) Circle, Tirunelveli.

Tender Schedule Available Date : **06.08.2020 to 07.09.2020 Up to 5.45 PM**
Tender Schedule Receiving Date : **Up to 3.00 PM on 08.09.2020**
Tender Opening at : **3.30 PM on 08.09.2020**
Total No. of Works : **1**
Total Approximate Value of Works : **Rs.439.00 Lakhs**

For further details and tender documents visit the website **www.tenders.tn.gov.in** and **www.tntenders.gov.in**

DIPR/2899/TENDER/2020 **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, PWD., BUILDINGS (C&M) CIRCLE,TIRUNELVELI**

SALEM CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Roc. No . SSCL/6092/2020 **INVITATIONS FOR BIDS** Date : 30.07.2020

I. 1. Supply and Fixing of Decorative 120W LED Street Lights of 904 Nos, Supply and Erection of 9m Height Octagonal Street light pole with Decorative Double Arm 452 Nos, Supply and laying of UG Cable 12204 Rm in PAN City of Salem City Municipal Corporation. Estimate Cost **Rs. 650.00 Lakhs.**

II. Bid document and other information available at **www.tntenders.gov.in, www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.salemcorporation.gov.in** Tender document can be downloaded from the above website.

III. **Date, Time and Venue for Tender Procedures.**
Submission of bids - **08.09.2020 upto 3.00 P.M**
Opening of bids - **08.09.2020 at 3.30 P.M**

DIPR/2895/TENDER/2020 **Commissioner, Salem Corporation**

Google has finally started testing YouTube live streaming for Stadia Cloud gaming service alongside exclusive "Crowd Play" features. The Stadia new update Google is looking to remove the barriers to live streaming games, *9to5Google* reported.

Younger kids can spread Covid-19 just like adults

Children below 5 years of age reported higher amounts of SARS-CoV-2 viral RNA in their nasopharynx compared to other age groups

NEW FINDINGS

WASHINGTON: Children younger than five years with mild to moderate Covid-19 have much higher levels of the novel coronavirus genetic material in the nose compared to older children and adults, according to a new study which raises concern about the reopening of schools and daycare centres across the world.

The findings, published in *JAMA Pediatrics*, shed light on the possibility that the youngest children transmit the virus as much as other age groups.

According to scientists, including those from Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital, the ability of younger children to spread Covid-19 may have been under-recognised given the rapid and sustained closure of schools and daycare centres during the pandemic.

"Our analyses suggest children younger than five years with mild to moderate Covid-19 have high amounts of the SARS-CoV-2 viral RNA in their nasopharynx compared with older children and adults," the scientists wrote in the study.

According to the study's lead author Taylor Heald-Sargent, a paediatric infectious diseases specialist at Ann & Robert H Lurie Children's Hospital, this may suggest greater transmission of the virus by children than seen in adults.

He added that the findings are similar to the transmission pattern seen with the respiratory syncytial virus, also known as RSV. "This has important public health implications, especially during discussions on the safety of reopening schools and daycare," he said.

Researchers analysed 145 cases of mild to moderate Covid-19 illness within the first week of symptom onset. They compared the quantity of virus genetic material found in three age groups — children younger than five years, children five to 17 years, and adults 18-65 years.

"Our study was not designed to prove that younger children spread Covid-19 as much as adults, but it is a possibility," Heald-Sargent said.

The researchers cautioned that the study is limited to detection of viral genetic material — its nucleic acid molecule RNA — rather than infectious virus. But they added that earlier research on paediatric cases of Covid-19 pointed to a correlation between higher viral nucleic acid levels and the ability to culture infectious virus.

"Thus, young children can potentially be important drivers of SARS-CoV-2 spread in the general population, as has been demonstrated with respiratory syncytial virus, where children with high viral loads are more likely to transmit," the researchers explained.

EXFILE

Blue crabs, a curse for Albanian fishermen

The blue crab may be pretty, but it is a menace along Albania's coast. A source of daily anguish for Balkan fishermen struggling to make ends meet, the invasive species is upsetting the region's ecosystem. We take a look how these crabs are affecting the region

JOURNEY TO THE MEDITERRANEAN
Native to the Atlantic, the crustacean started emerging in Albania's Adriatic waters over a decade ago, aided by warming sea temperatures

NATIVE GEOGRAPHIC RANGE
The crabs are native to the western edge of the Atlantic Ocean from Cape Cod to Argentina and around the entire coast of the Gulf of Mexico

HE CRABS
are native to the western edge of the Atlantic Ocean from Cape Cod to Argentina and aroundn from Cape Cod

SCIENTIFIC NAME
Callinectes sapidus

MILLIONS OF EGGS
Fishermen are right to be worried about a species whose females each lay millions of eggs, Sajmir Beqiraj, a professor of hydrobiology at the University of Tirana

DEPLETING STOCKS
Stocks of local sea bass, red mullets and eel are disappearing, fishermen complain. They say the foreign invader disrupts the delicate balance of underwater life

WIDTH
23 CM

"The crab takes our daily bread and even the fish in the nets... there is nothing to sell. They are very aggressive and clever, a real curse. This year we are seeing the crab everywhere, on the coast, offshore but also in inland waters, rivers and lagoons. The damage is enormous."
Besmir Hoxha, a 44-year-old fisherman

RESTRICTING BREEDING
To prevent breeding, fishermen throw the caught crabs and prevent them from moving out to sea to lay their eggs

TOP INVASIVE SPECIES
Native to the Gulf of Mexico, it has spread around the world via ballast water from ships and is now among the top 100 invasive species in the Mediterranean

DISRUPTION TO LOCAL ECOSYSTEM
The blue crab "has already disrupted the natural balance of native populations, leading to the decline or even extinction of some species, especially local crabs"

The crustacean is also damaging underwater seagrass beds that serve as nurseries for local fish, devouring the mussels and snails they feed on

TASTY, BUT NO TAKERS IN ALBANIA
Although the crab's flesh is considered a delicacy by some, it is not widely eaten in Albania

A ban on unfrozen exports to the European Union also limits the possibility of turning a profit elsewhere

The fishermen see no choice but to leave the crabs out in the scorching sun to die

A CURSE FOR THE FISHING COMMUNITY
In the marshy coastal area near the Karavasta Lagoon, the crab clogs nets and weirs, panicking fishermen who say the native marine fauna they rely on for a living are hard to find

Fishermen remove blue crabs from the fishing net in the waters of the Dead River, near the Divjaka Lagoon, Albania | AFP

Nepal to reopen Everest for autumn despite virus uncertainty

TOURISM HIT HARD

KATHMANDU: Nepal has reopened its mountains — including Everest —for the autumn trekking and climbing season in a bid to boost the struggling tourism sector, officials said on Friday, despite coronavirus uncertainty.

The country shut its borders in March just ahead of the busy spring season when hundreds of mountaineers usually flock to the country, costing jobs and millions of dollars in revenue.

A nationwide lockdown was lifted last week, and Nepal is now open "for tourism activities, including mountaineering and trekking." Mira Acharya of the tourism department told *AFP*.

The government will permit international flights to land in the country from August 17. The decision comes despite over 1,000 new coronavirus infections reported this week, with a total of 19,547 cases.

Officials were "working on" safety protocols Acharya added, including for how long visitors would have to quarantine on arrival.

Mingma Sherpa of Seven Summit Treks, one of the biggest Nepali expedition organisers, said that clients were calling, but were waiting to find out how long arrivals will have to quarantine for. "It would be a relief for mountaineering workers if we can run expeditions after an empty spring season," Sherpa said.

Mountaineering experts say the September-November season is more dangerous due to high winds and lower temperatures, and the world's highest mountains see only a handful attempt to climb them.

Autumn summits on Everest last year were thwarted by a serac — a block of glacial ice — hanging dangerously above the already treacherous Khumbu icefall that climbers have to cross to reach Camp 1.

Only a Chinese team reached the summit of Everest from its Tibetan side this year after all other expeditions were barred.

Boy digs up a giant clam

1.3KG-HEAVY

An 11-year-old Rhode Island boy clamming with his grandfather found a giant quahog (hard clam) that is thought to be one of the largest ever harvested in state waters. Cooper Monaco, of Wakefield, found the massive mollusc on Monday in the Weekapaug section of Westerly, and donated it to the University of Rhode Island's Marine Science Research Facility in Narragansett, the university said in a statement on Thursday. The clam is 5.75 inches across and weighs nearly 1.3 kilogrammes. The state Department of Environmental Management does not keep quahog records, but a typical quahog grows to about 4 inches across, the University of Rhode Island said.

BEAT THE HEAT

Mjukuu, a western lowland gorilla, enjoys a block of ice on Britain's hottest day of the year in London Zoo on Friday. UK's Met Office predicted that parts of the country will be hotter than mainland Europe this weekend | AP

Intense heatwave hits Western Europe

MERCURY LEVELS

PARIS: Swathes of Western Europe wilted under intense heat on Friday, with socially-distanced crowds seeking relief in fountains and pools as authorities warned of health and wildfire risks.

From Britain to Italy, temperatures nearing 40 degrees Celsius or more made face masks almost unbearable for many, as more cities begin requiring them outdoors to prevent surges in Covid-19 cases.

Fourteen Italian cities were placed on high alert, while France issued warnings for around one-third of the country's 101 departments.

UK's national weather service said it was the hottest day of the year so far, with thermometers climbing to 35°C at London's Heathrow Airport.

UNESCO SITES

Ecuador on alert as 260 Chinese fishing boats lurk near ecologically sensitive Galapagos

MARINE THREAT

QUITO: Some call it a floating city, a flotilla of 260 mostly Chinese fishing vessels near the Galapagos archipelago that is stirring diplomatic tension and raising worries about the threat to sharks, manta rays and other vulnerable species in waters around the UNESCO world heritage site.

Yet the vast fleet is in international waters, outside a maritime border around the Galapagos and also outside coastal waters off Ecuador, which controls the archipelago. That means the fleet, one of the biggest seen in years off South America's Pacific coast, is likely to fish with minimal monitoring until its holds are full.

The Chinese fleet is "very close" to the edge of the exclusive economic zone around the Galapagos, which extends 370 kilometres from the archipelago, said its governor, Norman Wray. He said that, because of overfishing in recent years, "what we're seeing is that each time fewer species return to the Galapagos."

(File image) A park ranger inspects Chinese flagship where 300 tonnes of marine species, were found, in Galapagos Islands (Aug 13, 2017) | AP

Luis Villanueva, an officer with the Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy Project, said on Thursday that it was possible, though unproven, that long fishing lines from the Chinese vessels could be drifting into the exclusive economic zone.

The fleet is a huge logistical undertaking, with storage and supply vessels that allow it to stay at sea for long periods.

The fleet has drawn the attention of the US, whose relationship with China is fraught on many fronts. The US National Security Council tweeted that the US stands with Ecuador "against any aggression directed toward their economic and environmental sovereignty."

The Chinese Embassy in Quito said in a July 23 statement that China respects Ecuador's measures to protect the environment and preserve marine resources.

China had ascertained and confirmed with Ecuador's navy that all the Chinese fishing vessels are operating legally "and don't represent any threat for anyone," the embassy said. Despite the Chinese statement, Ecuador has expressed concern through diplomatic channels and its navy is on alert for any incursion into Ecuadorian waters. In 2017, 20 crew members of a Chinese boat were jailed after Ecuador seized the vessel in the marine reserve of the Galapagos and discovered large numbers of sharks on board.

Ecuador's foreign minister, Luis Gallegos, said the fishing fleet includes Liberian- and Panamanian-flagged boats, and that it Ecuador seeks deeper coordination with Colombia, Panama, Peru and Chile on protecting the eastern tropical Pacific.

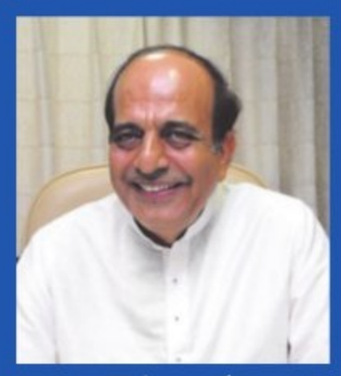
China's "distant-water" fishing fleet is the biggest in the world and comprises a total of about 17,000 vessels, with about 1,000 of those registered in other countries, according to a June report by ODI, a London-based research group. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization said in June that about one-third of fish stocks are being fished at "biologically unsustainable levels."

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS GROUP
airtel Presents
EVENT XPRESS

e-expressions
FEAR NONE. FAVOUR NONE

Paralysis of The National Opposition

Dr Abhishek Manu Singhvi
Member Rajya Sabha (Congress) and Eminent Jurist


Dinesh Trivedi
Member Rajya Sabha (TMC) and Former Union Minister

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 9 PM

IN CONVERSATION WITH
Prabhu Chawla
Editorial Director, The New Indian Express

WATCH IT LIVE ON
www.eventxpress.com
www.edexlive.com
www.newindianexpress.com

thenewindianxpress
edexnie
prabhuchawla
TNIE Videos
Edex Live
NewIndianXpress
PrabhuChawla

WATCH THINK ACT

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS City

Bengaluru Express

READSHAREFOLLOW
newindianexpress.com
Mail us: bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com
01.08.2020
SATURDAY

DAY'S DIARY

MTV launched

MTV: Music Television goes on air for the first time on this day in 1981. *Video Killed the Radio Star* by The Buggles was the first music video to air

SPLASH TO SLUMP

Following the format of Top 40 radio, video disc jockeys introduced videos and bantered about music news between clips. After the initial splash, it had a dull run for a few years

STARDOM FOR ARTISTES

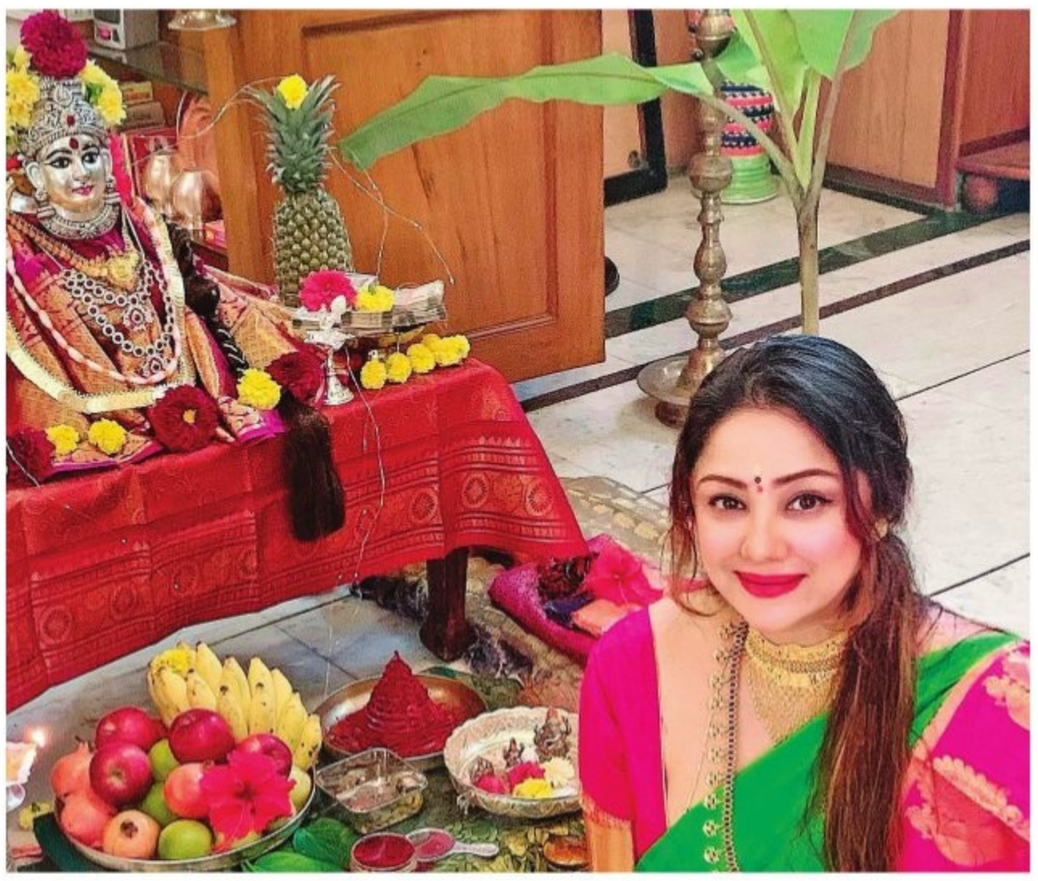
Releases in 1982, such as *Billie Jean* and *Beat It* from Michael Jackson's *Thriller*, proved that exposure on MTV could propel artistes to superstardom

A SUCCESS

The network brought success to such newcomers as Madonna and new wave icons Duran Duran, who used sophisticated techniques to make the visual elements of the video

Dhananajay to star in Rathnan Prapancha

PG 4



GLITTER AND GOLD

Not letting Covid-19 dampen their Varamahalakshmi celebrations, Sandalwood actors Anusha Rai (left) and Priyanka Upendra brought in the festival with pomp and fervour on Friday

GAME, SET, NO MATCH

It's not the stars but Covid-19 playing spoilsport in matchmaking, say matchmakers who share their struggles

• **Express Features**

It's a tale as old as time: Girl meets boy, they fall in love and live happily ever after. But in India, this story has a few more characters and chapters to it. Enter cupid, or in most cases, a matchmaker, who takes note of your preferences and suggests suitable matches for you. Netflix's new offering – Indian Matchmaking – throws light on the whole process as they follow matchmaker of the hour Sima Taparia as she jet sets between parts of India and the US while trying to find the man or woman of her client's dreams. While everything may look hunky-dory, city-based matchmakers tell *CE* how all is not actually well in the scene and the struggles they are currently facing. In a famous dialogue from the series, Taparia tells viewers, "Ultimately, my efforts are meaningless if the stars are not aligned." The recent Covid-19 virus, however, has proved that sometimes, it's not fate but man-made pandemics that can also foil the best of one's efforts.

Lakshmi Makhija may still be getting 20-30 new biodatas a day, but repeated lockdowns mean marriages can't materalise yet. "Once I introduce a boy and a girl to each other, I let them take things forward either through telephonic interactions or video call. But how long will they keep chatting this way? They need to meet as well and that's where things are getting stuck," says the city-based matchmaker, who adds that while same-city matches can still proceed with meetings, things look bleak for those from different cities.

Agrees Dr Sanjay Bajaj, who like Makhija, does matchmaking as a "social service" or a hobby. Once both parties like the biodata shared, a meeting can be fixed as soon as the coming weekend for them. "But now they can't do that. However, once some sense of normalcy is resumed, the matchmaking process might just be accelerated because by then, the boy and girl would have spent a good amount of time getting to know each other virtually," says Bajaj, who is also a distributor of construction machinery. "I am currently focusing only on digital meetings. This new mode may not affect hobby matchmakers as much as those doing it as a business model. The latter will definitely suffer more with marriages not materalising," he adds.

Priyanka Bharadwaj, who is the founder of M.B.A (Marriage Broker Auntie), which offers both advisory and assistance services, says people have been putting off partner searches due to notbeing able to go out. "Naturally, our business has suffered as well. We've seen a sharper decline in the case of our assistance service," says Bharadwaj, who has been using the down-time to create content on frequently asked questions, news letters etc.

Some, like Radhika Mohta, are moving away from the field. Mohta is now a relationship coach for independent singles. "While the pandemic has made people realise the importance of companionship, being lonelier than ever, being a matchmaker at this point is hard, because you realise that the people you connect are not able to meet even after months, thus making it difficult to sustain a conversation," she says.

Naturally, our business has suffered as well. We've seen a sharper decline in the case of our assistance service

—**Priyanka Bharadwaj,** founder, Marriage Broker Auntie (MBA)

How long will a boy and girl chat over a phone or video call? They need to meet as well and that's where things are getting stuck

—**Lakshmi Makhija,** matchmaker

Digital meetings may not affect hobby matchmakers as much as those doing it for business, who will suffer more with marriages not materalising

—**Dr Sanjay Bajaj,** matchmaker

BENGALURU BEATS

'HOPE B'LURU CAN GO BACK TO BEING THE GREEN CITY'

• **Aneesh Vidyashankar**
walking violinist

Having been born and brought up in Bengaluru, this place is closest to my heart only next to music, and in particular, the violin. But in the last two decades, I have seen some rapid changes in Bengaluru, some for the better, but most for the worse. Being a performer since childhood, I have been performing the age of seven in the city, across India and on foreign shores. I have always pondered as to how to make our 'Silicon Valley' one of the best places to live for all.

The total collapse of civic amenities and transport system in Bengaluru, resulting in very high levels of pollution, is one of the main issues of the city. This is despite the kind of climate the city has been bestowed with. I still remember in the year 2000, it would hardly take 20 minutes to get to Palace Grounds or Chowdiah Hall from my home in south Bengaluru, for my concerts. But later on and prior to the pandemic, the same distance would take at least one-and-a-half hours. The city, I feel, wasn't ready for the boom in terms of infrastructure.

On one hand we had a population explosion (including floating population), but factors like lack of public transport, condition of roads, poor planning of flyovers, underpasses, pavements and non-compliance to traffic rules have also led to the degradation of the city.

SOLUTION: Since the last week of March the pandemic has brought things to a halt. With a number of professionals working from home, thereby reducing jams, schools resorting to online classes, nature seems to be healing itself. So in a way, this might have been needed especially after the damage the city has been through. I'm hoping that post the pandemic too, work from home will be a permanent feature. That way we can go back to being the green city we once were.

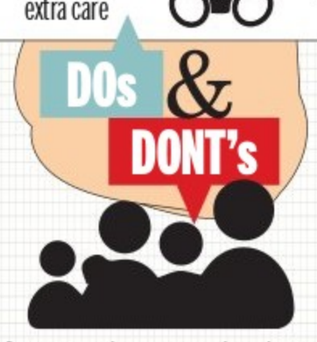
Let your mixed feelings about Bengaluru get stirred up, as an influential person talks about things nice and nasty about the city in this weekly column

COVID CARE

Advice your child to cover the mouth and nose with a tissue while coughing and sneezing. Dispose the used tissue immediately and wash hands with soap and water or use alcohol-based sanitiser

Sanitise your children's toys and other items which they frequently play with/touch. It's is important to take extra care

Urge the elderly in your home to stay indoors, help them eat healthy food and include citrus fruits in their diet



Do not travel unnecessarily, only step out when required. Taking casual trips increases your chances of stepping into crowded places

Do not store used clothes in a common spot. Keep a separate bin for storing clothes that have been outside the house. Change into clean clothes and keep the used clothes in the bin mentioned above

Do not touch food packets without disinfecting them. Clean the food items and make sure to disinfect the sink and the floor and area near it

CITY READ

Online handloom exhibition

GoCoop, which is an online marketplace for weavers and artisans, will host the second edition of 'Go Swadeshi Online'. The online exhibition will showcase a wide range of handloom sarees, fabrics, dress materials, stoles, dupattas, menswear, home décor and accessories by weavers and artisans from across the country. The 15-day online event will be held from August 1-15, coinciding with National Handloom Day, which is celebrated on August 7.

NEW MUSE

The 'art' of accessorising

• **Monika Monalisa**

Empowered women empower women. So it's no surprise that Titshika Mistry's latest line of arty jewellery focuses on Frida Kahlo. Mistry's designs have earrings and necklaces adorned with portraits of the Mexican painter, which are quite different from her usual theme of Indian gods and goddesses. "This time I wanted to do something different and wanted to channel Frida Kahlo's never give up spirit in my work," says Mistry, who runs Meera jewellery, which was named after her mother. "My love for jewellery came from my mother. She owns some of the most beautiful pieces of art jewellery," adds Mistry, who takes around two-three days to finish a piece, which is usually made of clay and jute.

Having always been an art and crafts lover, Mistry started doing it professionally five years ago. She left her job in a pharmaceutical company in 2015, since she was expecting her daughter. Not comfortable leaving her daughter with a nanny, she decided to take a break from work and take up this hobby full time. "When I started putting the jewellery designs on social media, I got lot of traction. People started enquiring and I started taking more orders," says Mistry, who likes to team such jewellery with handloom apparels.

A pair of earrings start from the price of ₹350 and goes up according to the intricate detailing in it. Listing out some of the other advantages of art jewellery, Mistry says these versatile pieces can be combined with not just sarees, but Western attire too, to give it an Indie touch. "You can team it with dresses too if you want to dress it up or down for an occasion," says Mistry, revealing that most of her sales happen July onwards, due to the list of festivals lined up. "It's an unofficial start to all year-end festivals. Especially for Bengalis because they start preparing for the Durga pooja from August onwards," says Mistry. This time, however, she has seen the lowest amount of business due to Covid-19 and hopes the pandemic does not further spell doom for artists who are struggling to make ends meet.

This time I wanted to do something different and wanted to channel Frida Kahlo's never give up spirit in my work

—**Titshika Mistry**

TOMATO CHAPATI

INGREDIENTS

- **Wheat flour:** 200 g
- **Tomato:** 2 medium-sized
- **Curd:** 4 tsp ■ **Chilli powder:** 1/4 tsp
- **Jeera:** 1 tsp ■ **Turmeric powder:** 1/4 tsp
- **Oil:** 1 tsp ■ Salt as required

METHOD

- In a bowl, grate tomatoes. Add chilli powder, turmeric powder, jeera and salt, and mix everything well.
- Add wheat flour to this mixture. Add curd and make it into a dough. If required, add more curd. The dough should be soft enough to be rolled into a chapati.
- Apply oil to the dough and let it rest for ten minutes. Cover it with a plate.
- Like you do for regular chapatis, take a ball out of the dough, flatten it, cook it on a tawa and serve hot.

– Akila Thiyagarajan, Bengaluru

QUICK FIX

What's cooking IN YOUR KITCHEN DURING THIS LOCKDOWN?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at cityexpresschn@gmail.com.

TWEET OF THE DAY

CATTLE EGRET

- It is a cosmopolitan species of Heron, commonly found in tropic, sub-tropic, and warm temperature zones.
- It nests in colonies usually near waterbodies and with other wading birds.
- This bird removes ticks and flies from cattle and consumes them, helping both the parties.
- The adult birds develop orange-coloured plumes on the back, breast and crown. The male is larger and has slightly longer plumes than females.

Photo: Madhumita Rajkumar

BRIGHT SPOT

THE FARMERS' FRIEND

Farmers in the villages of Hattarawat and Manganur in Belgavi had to abandon their profession and look for menial jobs because of lack of rains and proper irrigation system. Until Prof Sannappa Kamate decided to dig up an open-well on an ancestral plot of fallow land. He came across a community that was looking for jobs. Since he was already looking to dig up a well for animals, he offered them ₹2.5 lakh for the job. The workers struck water, and in four months, the site resembled a lake. Kamate totally spent ₹25 lakh for this venture. The excavated soil was spread on his farm that has a drip-fed plantation of mango, custard apple, guava, and jamun. A month later, Hattarawat witnessed rains, and lake overflowed. Soon, wells in Manganur were filled. Now farmers have resumed their work and are growing jowar, cotton, toor and even sugarcane. Close to 100 farming families have benefitted from the lake. With a ramp around the lake providing access, it is visited by peacocks, peahens, monkeys and scores of cattle heads.

Source: The Better India

APPSMART

Cake

Live-stream video-chat with new friends or invite them to an exclusive group chat. Send video messages to friends and followers, or start a video call.
Available on: Android

Profile Photo Downloader

Profile Photo Saver for Instagram™ is the easiest and most convenient way to see big HD profile photos from Instagram™ and share it.
Available on: Android

Qeek

Qeek is the simplest way to download any profile photo from Instagram and see it in its original high quality.
Available on: Android & iOS

FIT BIT

SIRSASANA

(HEADSTAND POSE)

In Sanskrit, 'sirsa' means 'head', and 'asana' means 'pose'. This pose exhibits strength, control and helps overcome the fear of falling. It is considered as the 'king of asanas'. The full inversion returns blood to the heart and brain, refreshing the cardiovascular and lymphatic system. It redirects sexual energies to a higher spiritual energy, which increases wellness and promotes a positive aura. It helps in opening the Ajna or third eye chakra.

STEPS

- Sit in Vajrasana on a mat or a folded blanket.
- Move to Balasana (Child Pose) with your fists stacked and forehead in between.
- Now, interlock your fingers tightly. This becomes the base to support your head.
- Bring your head between the palms. Keep your forearms on the mat.
- Move the knees towards your head, raise your knees and buttocks off the floor.
- You can slowly rise bringing your leg perpendicularly up. Ensure that your back is straight.
- Close your eyes and breathe slowly and deeply.
- In the final pose, focus on your breath as much as possible. If you are a beginner, practise just for ten seconds. You can increase the time once you have practised the pose enough times.
- To release the pose, slowly bend your knees and lower your legs one by one. Rest in child pose.

BENEFITS

- Increases both physical and mental stability.
- Massages abdominal organs, improves digestion and appetite.
- Helps reduce fat in the body.
- Helps to calm the brain and also relieves mild depression and stress.
- Kidneys and liver are activated.
- Thighs, knees, shoulder and arms become strong.
- Fights all diseases. Helpful in reducing menstrual pain, constipation, fatigue and back pain.
- Makes the legs, shoulder, back, and hips more flexible.
- Improves the body posture.

LIMITATIONS

- If you have low blood pressure and weak blood vessels in the eyes avoid this.
- Those suffering from headaches, neck or back injury should avoid this.
- Women who are not comfortable doing this during menstruation can avoid.
- Pregnant women must avoid this.

– by N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

SOUND BOARD

CHRIS GETHARD'S BEAUTIFUL ANONYMOUS
Comedian Chris Gethard invites anonymous callers to tell him stories. From confessions and family secrets to philosophical discussions, it could be anything.
- On Apple Podcast

WHERE SHOULD WE BEGIN?
Listen to therapist Esther Perel counsel couples as they reveal the most intimate, personal, and complicated details of the conflicts that have brought them to her door.
- On Stitcher

SNAP JUDGEMENT PRESENTS: SPOOKED
Spooked features true-life supernatural stories, told firsthand by people who can barely believe it happened themselves. Gear up for some spine-tingling moments.
- On Apple Podcast

THE ALARMIST
Who is to blame for the greatest tragedies? The Plague. The sinking of the Titanic. The break-up of the Beatles. Writer and comedian Rebecca Delgado-Smith and guests scrutinise history's greatest disasters to figure out what went wrong, and who's to blame.
- On Google Podcast

MOTHERHOOD SESSIONS
On Motherhood Sessions, Dr Alexandra Sacks, a renowned reproductive psychiatrist sits down with mothers and lets us listen in on conversations that are hard to have outside of a therapist's office.
- On Stitcher

POPULAR ON YOUTUBE

RAMA RAMA RE...
An escaped death row convict ends up taking a road trip with an old man on a personal mission and a young couple trying to elope.
- Cast: K Jayaram, Nataraj, Dharmanna Kadur

DHOL
Guru falls in love with Priya, who is the sister of a wealthy industrialist, Nanda. When Nanda learns about Guru, he is furious and tries to separate him from his sister.
- Cast: Yogesh, Aindrita Ray, Prakash Raj

SHRAVANI SUBRAMANYA
When Shravani finds out that her boyfriend, Sudeep, is a thug, she attempts to escape from his clutches. Subramanya, a budding singer, tries to save her from Sudeep.
- Cast: Ganesh, Amulya

SOORASAMHARAM
Pandian, a police officer, sets out to take revenge on a drug lord for the murder of his best friend, Arun. However, Pandian gets abducted by the criminal and is forced into drug addiction.
- Cast: Kamal Haasan, Janagaraj, Nirosha

Scan this QR code to find out how your favourite celebs are coping with the lockdown.

WHAT'S ON TED TALKS

1 THE MANY MEANINGS OF MICHELANGELO'S STATUE OF DAVID BY JAMES EARLE

We typically experience classic works of art in a museum, stripped of their original contexts, but that serene setting can belie a tumultuous history. James Earle walks us through the journey of Michelangelo's statue of David, to show how art gains layers of meaning over time.

2 HOW DID CLOUDS GET THEIR NAMES? BY RICHARD HAMBLYN

The study of clouds has always been a daydreamer's science, aptly founded by a thoughtful young man whose favorite activity was staring out of the window at the sky. Richard Hamblyn tells the history of Luke Howard, who classified the clouds and forever changed humanity's understanding.

3 THE BALLET THAT INCITED A RIOT BY ISEULT GILLESPIE

At the first performance of Igor Stravinsky's 'The Rite of Spring,' audience members were so outraged that they drowned out the orchestra. They hurled objects, started fights and were arrested. What caused this shocking reaction? Iseult Gillespie explains.

4 5 STEPS TO REMOVE YOURSELF FROM DRAMA AT WORK BY ANASTASIA PENRIGHT

No matter your industry, you've experienced drama at work. In this funny and all-too-relatable talk, community leader Anastasia Penright outlines five steps you can follow to better coexist with your coworkers and focus on what's really important.

5 HOW TO SUPPORT WITNESSES OF HARASSMENT AND BUILD HEALTHIER WORKPLACES BY JULIA SHAW

Memory scientist Julia Shaw explains the psychology of those who witness workplace discrimination and harassment – and shares actionable steps companies can take to support and amplify their voices.

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

FRENCH BIRIYANI (Kannada)
A story of multiple characters that come together to entertain you. Don Charles, a notorious kingpin, is on his death bed and calls his son Mani to get their employee Sulaiman to get a 'samaan' (something) from Simon.
- Cast: Danish Sait, Sal Yusuf, Disha Madan, Rangayana Raghu
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹129 per month

BROCHEVAREVARURA (Telugu)
Three students, who fail their exams and waste their time, befriend Mitra in their college. They devise a plan to help her but it leads to various problems.
- Cast: Sree Vishnu, Nivetha Thomas, Nivetha Pethuraj, Rahul Ramakrishna
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹129 per month

CIA (Malayalam)
Aji, a follower of Communism, travels to USA illegally to stop the wedding of his girlfriend Sarah. He, along with other people, gets caught by the American police while crossing the border.
- Cast: Dulquer Salmaan, Karthika Muraleedharan, Soubin Shahir
- Watch on: Netflix
- Registration: ₹199 per month

LOOTCASE (Hindi)
Nandan Kumar comes across a suitcase and discovers it is full of cash. He knows nothing about who it belongs to, where it's from, or how it got there. Nandan has to decide whether to take it or leave it.
- Cast: Kunal Khemu, Rasika Duggal, Ranvir Shorey, Gajraj Rao
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar
- Registration: ₹399 per year

SHAKUNTALA DEVI (Hindi)
The film follows the life of Shakuntala Devi, a well-known mathematical genius and prodigy from India. She was nicknamed 'Human Computer' because of her extraordinary talent and skill in solving complex mathematical problems without any mechanical aid.
- Cast: Vidya Balan, Sanya Malhotra, Jisshu Sengupta, Amit Gupta
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹129 per month

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

KUMBALANGI NIGHTS (Malayalam)
Saji, Bonny, Bobby and Franky are siblings who mostly do not get along. However, a series of events forces them to keep their animosity aside and support each other.
- Cast: Fahadh Faasil, Shane Nigam, Soubin Shahir, Anna Ben Nayarambalam
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹129 per month

FIREBRAND (Marathi)
A successful lawyer represents female clients in complicated divorce cases, but her wounds after a sexual assault cause problems in her own marriage.
- Cast: Usha Jadhav, Rajeshwari Sachdev, Girish Kulkarni, Sachin Khedekar
- Watch on: Netflix
- Registration: ₹199 per month

ENGLISH/FOREIGN

BIRDS OF PREY (English)
It's open season on Harley Quinn when her explosive break-up with the Joker puts a big fat target on her back. Unprotected and on the run, Quinn faces the wrath of narcissistic crime boss Black Mask, his right-hand man, Victor Zsasz, and every other thug in the city. But things soon even out for Harley when she becomes unexpected allies with three deadly women – Huntress, Black Canary and Renee Montoya.
- Cast: Margot Robbie, Jurnee Smollett-Bell, Mary Elizabeth Winstead, Ewan McGregor
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹129 per month

THE WAY BACK (English)
Jack Cunningham was a high school basketball superstar who suddenly walked away from the game for unknown reasons. Years later, he's now stuck in a meaningless job and struggling with alcoholism – the very thing that ruined his marriage and his hope for a better life. But Jack soon gets a shot at redemption when he becomes the basketball coach for his alma mater, a programme that has fallen on hard times since his teenage glory days.
- Cast: Ben Affleck, Janina Gavankar, Al Madrigal, Michaela Watkins
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹129 per month

A SEPARATION (Persian)
Nader and Simin, a married couple, live in Iran with their daughter Termeh. Simin wants to move out of the country, but Nader is reluctant to do so as he wants to take care of his ailing father.
- Cast: Payman Maadi, Leila Hatami, Sareh Bayat, Sarina Farhadi
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹129 per month

THE IMITATION GAME (English)
Alan Turing, a British mathematician, joins the cryptography team to decipher the German enigma code. With the help of his fellow mathematicians, he builds a machine to crack the codes.
- Cast: Benedict Cumberbatch, Keira Knightley, Matthew Goode, Allen Leech
- Watch on: Netflix ● Registration: ₹199 per month

LIVE LIFE... AWAKE

RUBINATIONS
RUBI CHAKRAVARTI
writer, actor and funny girl

Good morning Bangalore!

The sun is shining with predictable intermediate rains and the green foliage of our city is dancing and preening. The regulars on Facebook are constantly posting about their green thumbs and kitchen gardens and simpering about how well it is doing. (Reminding me of the nursery rhyme; 'Mary, Mary quite contrary, how does your garden grow'?) They are constantly flaunting their perfectly grown beans, tomatoes, and going into raptures over the chives and fresh coriander. And all these are senior executives, CEOs and the like. What a pandemic can do to people!

I appreciate and respect that many of us are taking refuge and empowering ourselves with our innovative cooking, gardening, and organically shifting gears to envelop a new and changing scenario. But, there a lot of the old ways that I miss. I realise that nature and the Universe is perhaps reiterating that, perhaps we need them more than they need us. The intolerable smugness with which we make our plans, the rampant destruction of our planet, the plundering, the looting, the wars we wage. Sigh! I could go on ad nauseam. But at the cost of sounding superficial, I miss the option of catching up with friends, the pressures, the deadlines, a lazy day at the spa, holidays and so much more. I find, that slowly with less stimulation my brain is curdling and fermenting into yogurt, but I can solace that at least it is rich in pro-biotics!

As much as conversations about the deadly 'C' occupies our lives (let's face it. Our lives as we know it has ground to a screeching halt), I see a growing sense of ennui engulfing us. I have had innumerable conversations with people who have lost friends and family, and they too are fatalistically picking up and carrying on with life and the oft repeated phrase is; 'how long can we burrow ourselves into a rabbit's wren and be afraid'? Frankly, the conversations have now degenerated into what can be summed up as 'c'est la vie'...this is life!

People are desperately trying to revive their businesses by adding unique selling points. Unfortunately, as Indians we tend to follow the leader as one then, doesn't have to rely on one's own imagination or enterprise. Since most people are afraid to step out especially to dine out, the restaurants and their ilk presently look desolate and empty. Some enterprising people from the hospitality trade hit upon the idea of giving one the same dining experience at home. Our mega thinkers in the government have deemed that closing all establishments by 8 or 9 and not serving liquor will deter the spread of the deadly 'Cardi-V'! So even for the brave, dining out is not fun anymore. Let's see what happens on August 1. We will either all attain 'the feet of the Lord' or immunize ourselves with herd immunity. Only the Lord's feet have that information!

Closer to home, there is a new traffic jam. Every restaurant big or small is sending you food boxes so that our memories are jogged about their delicious fare. If we don't go to them, they will come to us. Brilliant! Of course all this largesse is shown hoping that we order from them in the future. But, unfortunately a large section of 'free-rangers' are actually calling up the restaurants to complain that they haven't received their 'free-fund' package as yet! Somethings don't change in 'namma ooru'!

Good friend Rekha Ghosh and Dildeep and Zorawar Kalra from Massive Restaurants sent across a tastefully decorated box filled with Pan-Asian goodies and a DIY avocado salad with succinct instructions. The concept was inch-perfect and the food had great re-call value. Some well conceptualised meals leave a lasting impression and this certainly did. Scion of the legendary Jiggs Kalra, it looks like Zorawar has learned a trick or two.

Life's new USP is 'LIVING'!

Zorawar and Jiggs Karla

Ahead of her live online workshop this weekend, MasterChef Australia season 10 contestant Anna Polyviou speaks to *CE* about how she's been spending her time during the lockdown, experience on the show, how Covid-19 foiled her plans to visit India and more

FOR BETTER AND BATTER

The workshop by Anna Polyviou will be held on August 1, 12:30pm onwards, on Zoom. Visit Conosh website for more details

Monika Monalisa

Pastry chef **Anna Polyviou**'s time during the lockdown can be best summed up with cooking and more cooking. And now, a workshop by the MasterChef Australia season 10 contestant will give food enthusiasts a chance to learn her classic chocolate cake tart. Taking place on August 1, it has been organised by Conosh, a community that's known for organising intimate dining experiences with like minded people. "The chocolate cake tart tastes even better than it looks. I chose the tart because there are so many different elements," says Polyviou, who has also been using the time during the lockdown to produce and create video content. Always used to a live audience, she is slowly adapting to this new way of interacting with people. "I feel like the classes are taking place in my home, everyone is in my safe space, cooking with me. It kind of feels like I'm hanging out with friends in my kitchen," says Polyviou, who started baking professionally at the age of 18.

While many might consider baking to be therapeutic, the reality is that it can be stressful too, especially when things don't go your way. "I get disappointed when something doesn't work out. I then go back to the drawing board; research a little more and find out how to get it right from my friends," says Polyviou.

The year 2018 was a landmark year for the pastry chef, since it gave her a chance to be a part of MasterChef Australia 10, which also happened to be the last season for judges Gary Mehigan, George Calombaris and Matt Preston. "When they left, it felt like someone's death. I worked with George when I was doing my apprenticeship and I love Matt and am friends with Gary. I'll never forget my time with them," says Polyviou.

Her distinct mohawk has been a hit among many, including the judges who even tried imitating the hairstyle. "The mohawk was an accident, my partner shaved my hair too short and it just happened. The pink came from my time on another TV show and I just stuck with it. It stands out," says Polyviou. While many may dream of being on MasterChef like her, Polyviou's dream is to attend a big fat Indian wedding. "I was supposed to be there for Mother's Day but due to Covid-19 I couldn't go. India is one of my favourite countries," she says.

SOULFUL

How does one learn about oneself?

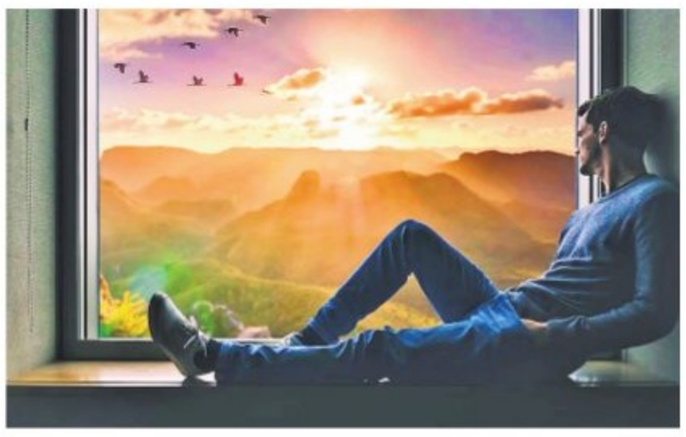
How are you to look at yourself – please do listen to this, it is quite absorbing. It demands a great deal of intelligence, it is great fun, much more fun than any book, than any religious entertainment, than any philosophy. As we are broken up human beings in ourselves, contradictory desires, feeling inferior or superior, being afraid, having no love, feeling lonely, fragmented, not only superficially but deeply - how are you to observe? One fragment observes the rest of the fragments? One becoming the censor, the examiner, the observer, watching over the rest of the fragments? And what gives him the authority over the other fragments? I hope the speaker is making himself clear; unless you understand this really, what we are going to discuss during the rest of the talks you won't be able to follow at all.

So the question is, who is the observer and who is the censor that says, 'This I will do, this I won't do, this is right and this is wrong, this path I will take and I won't tread that path, I'll be a pacifist with regard to this war but I've other favourite wars, I will follow this leader and not that leader, I believe in this and not in that, I will hold this prejudice and reject that', knowing, if you have observed yourself, that you are a fragmented human being? And therefore, being fragmented, contradictory, living in constant conflict, and knowing this conflict, one fragment of this many, many fragments, takes charge, becomes the authority, the censor, and his observation must inevitably be contradictory. I hope you're following all this. If one fragment, one part of you assumes the authority of the analyser over the other fragments, why has he assumed that authority, and can he, one fragment, analyse the rest of the other fragments? You are following all this?

See how dreadfully complex it has all become. Whether you are analysed by a professional or you analyse yourself, it is still the same pattern. So it is very important to find out how to observe, how to observe all these many contradictions which make up our life, how to observe the whole of those fragments without another fragment taking place. Is this question clear? Do please find out. Perhaps at the end of this afternoons's talk, you can ask questions. But this is very important to find out, because as long as there is contradiction, division, in oneself, there must be conflict, there must be violence, which expresses itself in the world outside, in society. And as long as this fragmentation exists within one, there can be no peace. And a man who really, deeply wants to understand and live a peaceful life, a life of love, must understand this question completely. Therefore it is a very serious matter, not just an afternoon's listening to a few words - we are dealing with the whole problem of existence. And it is only the mind that can give serious attention to this, that is able to resolve it. So it is very important, imperative that one understands this question.

How do you observe? Do you observe yourself as an outsider, as a censor, saying, this is right, this is wrong, justifying, condemning, approving, storing up? And if you do, there is contradiction and therefore conflict and therefore violence.

– Jiddu Krishnamurti



No quitting

Samyuktha Hegde's love for fitness seems to be rubbing off on her mother, who tried skipping with a hula hoop. Though she missed the hoop a couple of times, she finally nailed the trick. The actor posted a video on Instagram, saying, "She's 58 and there's no quitting in her dictionary."

CITY READ

Remote exams for admission

Admission to B.Tech programmes offered at engineering campuses of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham will be based on the marks secured in AEEE conducted as Remote Proctored model, so that the candidates can attend the exam sitting at home. The university will consider both AEEE 2020 and +2 PCM Marks to prepare the rank list.

Swiggy launches Health Hub in city

Launched in Bengaluru, Health Hub will extend to Mumbai, Hyderabad, and Delhi in the next few weeks. Swiggy has worked with nutritionists and restaurants to enable curation of special health menus and dishes by restaurants. Health Hub will assist consumers in deciding what to order since restaurants will be able to share details like protein, carbs, fats etc for dishes.

ASLAM GAFOOR

Why dining out may not be on whim

These past few months, the pandemic has led to unprecedented disruption in the food and beverage industry. Dine-in options at restaurants are suspended in most cities, bars are unable to function without the service of alcohol, food delivery business is on a slow rebound, social distancing regulations has cut the business prospects by more than half and there is an increased expenditure towards the implementation of safety and hygiene measures in restaurants.

However, in these troubled times, the restaurant industry has adapted to adjust to the new normal with a slew of initiatives. Contactless diner experiences which minimises the need for human touch elements through the effective use of technology is being widely adopted by most F&B establishments. Restaurant discovery, table reservations, QR-enabled menus, digital payments and live streaming of the kitchen are all channelled through diner smartphones.

Founder and MD of Massive Restaurants, Zorawar Kalra, is championing the cause of 'Stress Free Dining' with the implementation of the best safety and hygiene standards at Farzi Cafe and Bo Tai. He says, "The impact of Covid-19 has been most severe on the hospitality industry. Eating out is undergoing a change. Food safety and hygiene are playing a key role and delivery and take away orders are becoming an intrinsic element of the business."

Conrad Bengaluru has elevated the safety and hygiene standards with the implementation of the Hilton CleanStay initiative. General Manager Srijan Vadhera is happy to see diners returning at his hotel restaurants Caraway Kitchen and Tiamo by the poolside. He says, "We anticipate that consumers will continue to dine responsibly. A stronger inclination towards contactless dining experiences, the use of digital platforms for menus and transactions, and a reduced seating capacity is most likely to become a norm."

Representational pic

In addition to stand-alone restaurants, food delivery menus by star hotels are gaining popularity with options of ordering a Sunday brunch from home. Through 'Gourmet Couch', ITC Hotels is offering a distinctive home delivery menu with dishes from their signature brands. And, IHCL has launched Qmin, their own gourmet food delivery service from popular restaurants of Taj and Vivanta hotels.

The pandemic has also catapulted the popularity of home chefs since it allows people to order authentic food cooked safely at home. On offer are Anglo-Indian dishes, Bohri meals, Maharashtrian snacks, Andhra delicacies, Mughlai biryani, local desserts, artisanal bread and more.

According to Riyaaz Amlani, CEO & MD, Impresario Handmade Restaurants, which sport the Smoke House Deli and Social brands, "Dining out will no longer be on a whim. It is likely to go back to a time when people dined out to celebrate an occasion. They will expect more from their restaurant experience and we will have to work harder."

Farm-to-table dining will also become more prominent with restaurants procuring locally sourced produce and creatively incorporating them in their menus. Case in point is food pop-up Lore BLR where founder, Kaushik Raju and chef patron Johnson Ebenezer, are unfolding the art of storytelling through locally grown farm produce. Cloud kitchens are witnessing growth, especially with existing restaurants converting their kitchen space for production facilities to cater to a focused delivery model, in some cases under a new brand.

Vinesh Gupta, GM at The Den Bengaluru, feels, "Hygiene and technology which was perceived as 'luxury' are now the 'necessity' and social distancing will force businesses to rethink their approach. Probably, outdoor venues seem to be the most preferred outlet to deal with new normalcy." A case in point is Layla at The Den. He adds, "The restaurant industry will bounce back as more and more people would like to step out." Kalra concludes aptly, "Restaurants can never go virtual. People will always want to meet up with family, enjoy a meal or have drinks with friends. This is just a temporary blip and things will eventually return to normal."

The writer is a Bengaluru-based hospitality professional, food lover and travel enthusiast

SMARTADS

FAILED STUDENTS
Don't worry Join College & Study your Dream Course, Free Admission Guidance.
PARAMEDICAL COURSES
Specialisations: Dental, X-Ray, Dialysis, OT, Blood Transfusion, MLT, Optometry, Cardiology, Opthomology and Radiology.
COMPLETE AMIIE
(B.Tech), TMIIE / DIPIIE (Diploma), CADD Certification, Become Professional / Chartered Engineers. Get Employed.
METRO EDUCATIONAL COUNSELLING
93412 73990

WANTED
URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR GENUINE BUYERS/ JOINT VENTURE/AGRICULTURAL / RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL / INDUSTRIAL SITES / TENANTED PROPERTY WITH GOOD RETURNS / STAR HOTEL'S / TECH PARKS/ MALL'S / THEATERS / HOSPITALS / COLLEGES / SCHOOLS ETC.,
REQUIRED FOR GENUINE BUYERS / JOINT VENTURE / AGRICULTURAL / RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL / INDUSTRIAL LANDS AT DEVANAHALLI AIRPORT / SARJAPUR / WHITEFIELD / HOSAKOTE 1 TO 100 ACRES AND ABOVE (ONLY CLEAR TITLES)
COMMERCIAL / TENANTED PROPERTY WITH GOOD RETURNS (ROI) RESIDENTIAL / SITES 7000 SFT TO 77,000+_. FROM M.G. ROAD, 7 KILOMETRES RADIUS, SURROUNDING AREAS.
BUDGET Rs.7 CRORES UPTO Rs. 1000 CRORES FULL CHEQUE PAYMENT ONLY.
CONTACT: MR. SEVENRAJ 9845020007 9845717777 sevenraj@gmail.com

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
For Classified Advertisements Contact:
Mr.Ravikumar
9886550650
080-22866893

Bobby Deol's digital debut *Class of '83* to release in August

CE Features

Bollywood actor Bobby Deol is making his digital debut with the film *Class of '83*. The makers have announced that the film will be releasing on Netflix in August.

Class of '83 is backed by Shah Rukh Khan's banner Red Chillies Entertainment, and it is directed by Atul Sabharwal. The police drama is about an honest and upright police officer-turned trainer and his students, who grapple with notions of morals and patriotism.

The film marks Red Chillies' second collaboration with Netflix after *Bard of Blood*. Other than *Class of '83,* Indian series *Masaba Masaba* is also slated to release in August

The scripted series is based on real-life moments from fashion designer Masaba Gupta's life. It follows her background, her fashion world, and family. It will also feature her mother, actress Neena Gupta. The series is written and directed by Sonam Nair.

Daali will be seen in the role of Rathnakara in KRG Studios' first production venture; this comedy-drama is jointly produced by Karthik Gowda and Yogi G Raj

DHANANJAY TO HEADLINE ROHITH PADAKI'S *RATHNAN PRAPANCHA*

A Sharadhaa

Producer Vijay Kiragandur presents *Rathnan Prapancha*, a maiden production by KRG Studios. With Dhananjay playing the lead, this is going to be a comedy drama directed Rohith Padaki, and jointly produced by Karthik Gowda and Yogi G Raj. The company KRG Studios, which has been into distribution for three years, recently announced their latest venture, a digital marketing solutions -- KRG Connects. This was launched by actors Yash and Radhika Pandit, after which the distribution company is taking their first step to production. The first look poster was released on Varamahalakshmi.

Rathnan Prapancha's story is written by director Rohith Padaki along with his team, and will have on board cinematographer Sreesha Kudavalli, and music will done by Ajaneesh Lokanth. While the editing desk will be looked after by Deepu S Kumar, Shivakumar will handle the art department. According to the director, *Rathnan Prapancha* will see the journey of Rathnakara, a character played by Dhananjay and will be a slice of life cinema. "The film blends with humour and emotions," says the director, adding that Dhananjay will be seen as a common man. "The film also explores the values between mother and son, and her relationship with her children. All of this blends in with comic elements."

Producer Yogi G Raj goes on to add that they were in the process of starting a productional venture for sometime now, but was waiting for a good project to start off with. "This came with *Rathnan Prapancaha*. Everything was finalised during this lockdown. Currently, preparation is going on, and shoot will start from September onwards. If we're ready and depending on the pandemic, we might even start earlier," says the director-turned-producer.

Subject-wise, producer Karthik Gowda, says *Rathnan Prapancha* follows a contemporary style and is new age. "The film follows the journey of Rathnakara, the central character. We have finalised locations like Bengaluru, Mysuru, Malnad, and Gadag. We will also be going to either Kashmir or Kerala, depending on the pandemic," the producer tells us.

The production house, which have finalised the lead and technicians, are in the process casting the heroine, and remaining artistes.

> **The film follows the journey of Rathnakara, the central character. We have finalised locations like Bengaluru, Mysuru, Malnad, and Gadag. We will also be going to either Kashmir or Kerala.** —Karthik Gowda, producer

A2 music bags *Trivikrama* audio rights for ₹50 lakh

Vikram Ravichandran and Akanksha Sharma

CE Features

Audio rights of *Trivikrama*, starring Vikram Ravichandran, have been sold for a sum of ₹ 50 lakh. This is a big deal considering it's for a debutant's film. A2 music has bought the rights of the music album scored by Arjun Janya. The deal of the film, directed by Sahana Murthy, was signed on Varamahalakshmi.

The team ,along with the music director, are now getting ready for the recording of 6 songs, for which they have lined up popular singers -- Vijay Prakash, Haricharan, Shreya Ghoshal, Sid Sriram, and Sanjith Hegde. The team, which has filmed the scenes and songs in various locations in Bengaluru, Dandeli, Rajasthan and Bangkok, is now left with the shooting of two songs. *Trivikrama* is said to be a high-voltage love story, which is mentioned as a tagline. It is produced by Sommanna and Suresh, under the banner of Gowri Entertainers, The commercial entertainer marks the debut of Akanksha Sharma, who plays the female lead, as well as Bollywood actor Rohit Roy, who is making his foray into Kannada with this film. The romantic drama has an ensemble cast, including Chikkanna, Sadhu Kokila, Suchendra Prasad, Shivamani, Adi Lokesh, and Telugu actor Jayaprakash, in prominent roles. The camerawork is managed by two cinematographers — Santosh Rai Pathaje and Guruprashant Rai.

A middling tale of brotherhood, bravado and betrayal

Avinash Ramachandran

Director: Tigmanshu Dhulia
Cast: Vidyut Jammwal, Amit Sadh, Shruti Haasan, Vijay Verma
Streaming on: Zee5

RATING 2.5/5

If nothing else, one can be assured of seeing the screen filled with style and pizzazz whenever Tigmanshu Dhulia decides to make a film on the Indian hinterland. We have seen him showcase reluctant dacoits, royal gangsters, hotheaded college students in films that generally carry a strong sense of brotherhood and, of course, betrayal. In *Yaara*, the recent direct-to-OTT Hindi release, Tigmanshu sticks to this template that has served him well in the past.

Although *Yaara* begins in 1999 in a posh area of Delhi, the film travels through dusty plains, dense forests and unforgiving deserts in a narration that spans four decades. We first see the members of the brotherhood — Phagun (Vidyut Jammwal), Mitwa (Amit Sadh), Rizwan (Vijay Verma) and Bahadur (Kenny Basumatary) — as middle-aged men in their 40s. Three of them have moved on from their life of crime but Mitwa hasn't. His re-entry after more than a decade turns their lives upside down. The various players in this action drama are introduced at a frenetic pace, which, unfortunately, is compromised later for establishing layers that are only half-baked.

We first meet the Chaukdi gang — the awesome foursome — as kids who are roped in by Chaman (Sanjay Mishra in a cameo) to work in their gang that carries out smuggling across the Indo-Nepal border. We move from the 50s to the 60s and the 70s, and each time period is established by film posters, Amitabh Bachchan imitations, the breaking news of the times, and growing insurgency in the country. While the Chaukdi gang is essentially a group of lawless people, they also follow the Hindi cinema stereotype of having hearts of gold. For every mindless murder, they save the poor from the clutches of evil rich people just to balance things out.

But their good deeds are unable to save them or the film once the Naxalite angle takes center-stage. Though this angle introduces us to Sukanya (Shruti Haasan) and her relationship with Phagun, *Yaara* is left to fight hard at redeeming itself after nosediving in these portions. As a separate entity, the police brutality to crush the insurgency does elicit the appropriate response of shock and rage. However, in the grander scheme of things, these sequences only make the character arcs of the main players all the more confusing. For instance, Sukanya, a firebrand activist in her youth, is not shown to be reluctant in accepting the riches offered by a cushioned existence. In between all this, there is a betrayal of this brotherhood, and the proverbial twists in the tale are so clear from the beginning that the build-up seems laughable at best. Holding your cards too close to the chest and revealing all of them at once doesn't bode well for a film that preferred taking it slow till then.

Although *Yaara* does have its share of flaws, full points to Tigmanshu for his inspired casting choices, including having Vidyut play a role that isn't just about the action scenes. *The John Wick* of Hindi cinema shows that he isn't a one-trick pony. While Amit Sadh continues to play the conflicted angry young man with relative ease, Vijay Verma gets to do his best impersonation of the OG angry young man of Bollywood — Amitabh Bachchan. But more than anything, it is the casting of Shruti that takes the cake. She not only aces the dignified poise that comes with maturity but revels in the free-spiritedness of a rebel who believes justice will soon be served. It is a pity that the inconsistency in writing doesn't support the actors well enough.

When the film concentrates on the camaraderie of the *Chaukdi* gang, *Yaara* feels like a *Subramaniapuram* meets *Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara*. It balances the rusticness with an uber-cool attitude. It is super fun to see trigger-happy bootleggers doing their criminal activities without a shred of conscience. However, concentrating more on the betrayal than the brotherhood feels like a misstep or rather, a betrayal worse than the one they encounter in the film.

Shakuntala Devi : Sappy biopic on math genius settles for less

Shilajit Mitra

Anu Menon's film rounds out what can be called the Vidya Balan motherhood trilogy. In *Tumhari Sulu* (2017), she played a housewife and mother who takes up a job as a late-night radio host. In *Mission Mangal* (2019), her ingenuity as a homemaker facilitates a scientific breakthrough. And now, in Shakuntala Devi, she plays a mathematician whose globe-trotting journey all but cripples her relationship with her daughter. Out on Amazon Prime, the biopic has the same frolicking quality as the previous two films. Yet, the emotional baggage here is markedly heavy — something the film struggles to carry off till the end.

In 1930s Bangalore, a five-year-old Shakuntala is deemed a child prodigy. Her father, a lion tamer and magician, seizes the opportunity, keeping her out of school to perform variety 'math shows' across town. Shakuntala grows up without a proper childhood, shadowed by the death of a sibling and the servile silence of her mother. She grows to hate her family, and, after a freak incident with a firearm, flees to London. There she flourishes into a world-renowned genius, stunning academicians around the world and earning a mention in the Guinness Book of World Records.

Shakuntala's rise as a mathematician, astrologer and author is undercut by her growing struggles as an individual. She reacts unpredictably to heartbreak — with comic intensity or prompt indifference. Her marriage to Paritosh (Jisshu Sengupta), an IAS officer from Calcutta, crumbles when she moves back to London and takes custody of their daughter, Anu. Sanya Malhotra makes a great match for Vidya — their violent blowups diffuse the film's outwardly feel-good vibe.

Like *Tumhari Sulu,* Shakuntala Devi examines the fallout between ambition and maternal duty. It's a pertinent topic, but the film won't stop hammering its viewers. The parallels between Anu and Shakuntala are laid out in bold strokes. They both hate their mothers. They both had troubled childhoods — for opposite reasons. They both marry a supportive husband. "You deserve the Nobel prize for looking after your daughter," we hear them both retort. When Anu has her own child, she's assailed by the same parental guilt as her mom. Even for a biopic, this constant nudging gets annoying. Anu Menon and co-writer Nayanika Mahtani celebrate Shakuntala's individualistic spirit, but do not let Anu grow out of her shadow.

Likewise, the lighter moments are a hit-and-miss. Sachin-Jigar's soundtrack is relentlessly woozy. The complex number crunching is visualised via pop-up animations (*Super 30,* another film about a math whiz, ran this trick to the ground). The film retains the mystery of Shakuntala's lightning-fast brain; in a sequence, scientists run scans on her head and come up short. We are also introduced to her myriad quirks: from her habit of bringing up her C-Section to running a failed election campaign against Indira Gandhi. Skipping between timelines, Vidya rarely loses her poise, throwing her head back and chortling broadly. "Am I correct?" she asks excitedly from time to time — though the response is clear.

It may sound like an odd comparison, but the film reminded me of Hirokazu Koreeda's *The Truth* (2019). In it, Catherine Deneuve and Juliette Binoche play a mother-daughter pair coming to terms with their disparate personalities. Shakuntala Devi charts a similar space, but caves under the same sentimentality it sets out to examine. Like most Hindi films, it strikes out for reconciliation at all costs, ignoring the years of bitterness, hurt and neglect. It paints a bright picture, but not a revealing one.

Director: Anu Menon
Cast: Vidya Balan, Sanya Malhotra, Amit Sadh, Jisshu Sengupta
Streaming on: Amazon Prime Video

RATING 2/5